Please note: These transcripts are not individually reviewed and approved for accuracy.

COMMITTEE MEETING

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD

PERMITTING AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

JOE SERNA, JR., CAL/EPA BUILDING

1001 I STREET

2ND FLOOR

COASTAL HEARING ROOM

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2008

1:30 P.M.

TIFFANY C. KRAFT, CSR, RPR CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER LICENSE NUMBER 12277

ii

APPEARANCES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ms. Rosalie Mulé, Chair

Mr. Jeffrey Danzinger

Ms. Cheryl Peace

BOARD MEMBER ALSO PRESENT

Mr. Wesley Chesbro

STAFF

Mr. Mark Leary, Executive Director

Ms. Julie Nauman, Chief Deputy Director

Mr. Reinhard Hohlwein, Staff

Mr. Robert Holmes, Staff

Mr. Howard Levenson, Program Director, Waste Prevention & Market Development

Ms. Mary Madison-Johnson, Supervisor, Region 1 Permitting & LEA Support

Mr. William Marciniak, Staff

Ms. Cara Morgan, Division Chief, Local Assistance and Market Development Division

Ms. Dianne Ohiosumua, Staff

Mr. Bill Orr, Division Chief, Cleanup, Closure and Financial Assurance Division

Mr. Ted Rauh, Deputy Director

Ms. Tabetha Willmon, Staff

Ms. Dorothy Woody, Staff

iii

APPEARANCES CONTINUED

ALSO PRESENT

- Mr. William Brunet, LEA, Imperial County
- Ms. Therese Cannata, Cold Creek Compost
- Mr. John Cupps, consultant
- Mr. Bob Douthitt, Imperial County Waste Management
- Mr. Richard Ludt, Interior Removal
- Mr. Pete Oda, LEA, County of LA
- Mr. Lars Seifert, LEA, Imperial County
- Mr. Trey Strickland, LEA
- Ms. Jane Veres, Cold Creek Compost

iv

INDEX

		PAGE
	Roll Call And Declaration Of Quorum	1
	Public Comment	
Α.	Program Directors' Report	2
В.	Consideration of a New Full Solid Waste Facilities Permit (Compostable Materials Handling Facility) for the Cold Creek Compost Facility, Mendocino County	5
C.	Consideration of a New Full Solid Waste Facilities Permit (Large Volume Construction and Demolition/Inert Debris Processing Facility) for Construction and Demolition Recycling, Los Angeles County	46
	Motion Vote	54 54
D.	Consideration of a Revised Ful Solid Waste Facilities Permit (Disposal Facility) for Niland Solid Waste Site, Imperial County	55
	Motion Vote	64 64
Ε.	Consideration of a Revised Full Solid Waste Facilities Permit (Transfer/Processing Station) for the Western Amador Recycling Facility (WARF), Amador County	64
	Motion Vote	64 64
F.	Consideration of the Adoption of a Negative Declaration (State Clearninghouse #2007122038) and Proposed Regulations on Mammalian Tissue Composting	65
	Motion Vote	73 74
G.	Update on Landfill Long-Term Financial Assurances Activities for Postclosure Maintenance and Corrective Action	74

v

INDEX CONTINUED

PAGE

H. Consideration of the Imperial Valley Resource 85 Management Agency Joint Powers Formation Agreement Between the Cities of Brawley, Calexico, Calipatria, El Centro, Holtville, Imperial, Westmorland, and the Unincorporated Imperial County Motion 90 Vote 91

- I. Adjournment
- J. Reporter's Certificate

PROCEEDINGS 1 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Good afternoon, everybody. 2 Welcome to the February 11th meeting of the Permitting and 3 4 Compliance Committee. 5 We have agendas on the back table. And if anyone 6 would like to address the Committee, we do have speaker 7 slips back there as well. We ask that you fill them out and bring them up to Donnell, and then you will have an 8 opportunity to address our Committee. 9 10 Also I would like to request everyone either turn off or put in silent mode your pagers and cell phones. 11 And with that, Donnell, could you call the roll? 12 13 SECRETARY DUCLO: Members Danzinger? 14 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Here. SECRETARY DUCLO: Peace? 15 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Here. 16 SECRETARY DUCLO: Chair Mulé? 17 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Here. 18 19 Members, do we have any ex partes? COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Up to date. 20 21 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: Even though I'm not a voting member of the Committee --22 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: And we also have Member 23 24 Chesbro with us. BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: I did over at the 25

Please note: These transcripts are not individually reviewed and approved for accuracy.

- 1 Composting Conference in Oakland have a conversation with
- 2 Martin Mileck of Cold Creek Composting. Amazingly enough,
- 3 we didn't talk about the permit. But we did talk about a
- 4 number of issues associated. I just thought it was a good
- 5 idea to disclose the conversation.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you.
- 7 And I briefly spoke to John Cupps on Item 7 and
- 8 then Larry Sweetser on Item 3.
- 9 So with that, let's move forward to the Program
- 10 Director's reports. Who wants to go first?
- 11 DEPUTY DIRECTOR RAUH: Thank you. This is Ted
- 12 Rauh. I'm the Director of the Waste Compliance and
- 13 Mitigation Program. A couple of items to bring to your
- 14 attention.
- 15 First item is sort of a report on the status of
- 16 our program. We've gone through a substantial amount of
- 17 change in the last year, and I just thought I would bring
- 18 that quickly to your attention.
- 19 Over the last 13 months, the supervisor and
- 20 managers of the program we've experienced an 80 percent
- 21 change, which is a very substantial change as one can
- 22 expect. At the same time, nearly 50 percent our senior
- 23 IWMS staff have also changed. In some cases, we've
- 24 brought experienced people in those classifications into
- 25 our program as taking the vacant positions. In other

- 1 cases, we brought in new staff, all certainly well
- 2 qualified and very motivated to be with the Board.
- 3 But again when you look at that number, you can
- 4 see that substantial amount of change and the capability
- 5 of our program. And certainly over this next year we'll
- 6 be spending a considerable amount of time in developing
- 7 staff training and professional proficiency in our various
- 8 program areas.
- 9 The next area I'd like to bring to your attention
- 10 is tire enforcement grants. The tire enforcement grant
- 11 process has reached the stage where all of the applicants
- 12 have submitted their grants. And we've just done a tally.
- 13 This occurred last year. We actually have 42 applicants
- 14 this time, which is an increase of three over the number
- 15 we had the previous year.
- And with respect to the total amount being
- 17 requested, it's \$8.44 million, which is nearly \$1.7
- 18 million over what the Board approved for this program last
- 19 year in the allocation phase.
- 20 Of course, we haven't done the review of these
- 21 grants, so we don't know whether all that money will be
- 22 necessary. But what we do plan on doing if it becomes a
- 23 fact that there is more money being requested than has
- 24 been allocated to this point, we'll come forward with two
- 25 recommendations for you. The first would be to allocate

- 1 the funds as the criteria allow, scaling them back to meet
- 2 the 6.75 million. And the second option would be with a
- 3 suggestion that you augment to satisfy all of the
- 4 applicable and appropriate applications.
- 5 So we're a couple months away from coming back
- 6 before you, but I just wanted to let you know that the
- 7 changes in criteria you made seem to have increased
- 8 interest or at least in funding interest for this program.
- 9 The third area I wanted to mention very quickly
- 10 is just some staff accolades. We recently received
- 11 substantial recognition for some of the folks in our
- 12 cleanup program. Glenn Young, Angela Basquez, and Dawn
- 13 Owen received strong praise from Allen Stroh, the Monterey
- 14 County Director of Environmental Health, for their
- 15 outstanding work in installing gas extraction monitoring
- 16 wells as part of Laguna Seca closed landfill project.
- 17 And also Scott Walker, Wes Mindermann, Brad
- 18 Williams, and Mustafe Botan were singled out by a number
- 19 of folks as part of their contributions -- continuing
- 20 contributions to the Torres Martinez Solid Waste
- 21 Collaborative. And there the Board has worked on four
- 22 sites and is continuing to work on a site. And praise has
- 23 come from as far afield as the Bureau of Indian Affairs,
- 24 U.S. EPA, certainly the County, the Indian tribes
- 25 associated with it. Everyone associated with it certainly

- 1 feels that the Board through its presence are making a
- 2 substantial difference for that tribal land.
- 3 And that concludes my report.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Ted.
- 5 Any questions for Ted? No.
- I just want to make a comment. I was at the
- 7 Torres Martinez Collaborative event in Thermal last
- 8 Thursday, and a number of those agencies that you
- 9 mentioned, Ted, the BIA, U.S. EPA, County Supervisor, and
- 10 others, did not only praise our staff, they were very
- 11 appreciative of the work the staff did, but also the
- 12 contribution that the Board has made for the four major
- 13 cleanups amounting to over \$1.6 million. As one of the
- 14 members of U.S. EPA said that they feel the Integrated
- 15 Waste Board was the secret weapon in the success of the
- 16 Torres Martinez Collaborative being the success it is. So
- 17 I just wanted to share that with my fellow Board members.
- 18 With that, let's move into our agenda items. The
- 19 first one is Committee Item B, Ted.
- 20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR RAUH: Thank you, Madam Chair.
- 21 The first item is Consideration of a New Full Solid Waste
- 22 Facility Permit Covering Compostable Materials Handling
- 23 for the Cold Creek Compost Facility Located in Mendocino
- 24 County.
- 25 This permit poses some interesting issues for the

- 1 Board. The operator currently operates under a
- 2 standardized composting permit and has compliance problem
- 3 history managing odors. The facility is subject to a
- 4 court order, which includes odor management provisions.
- 5 Staff has worked with the LEA to ensure the
- 6 permit before you will incorporate odor management
- 7 practices. And here to present the item for your
- 8 consideration is Reinhard Hohlwein. Take it away.
- 9 MR. HOHLWEIN: Thank you. Good day, Committee
- 10 members. This item regards the issuance of a new full
- 11 solid waste facilities permit for the Cold Creek Compost
- 12 Facility, which is located on a ridgetop in the hills of
- 13 eastern Mendocino County above the small town of Potter
- 14 Valley.
- 15 This permit action is necessitated by a change in
- 16 the regulations, which occurred a few years ago, which
- 17 requires all compost facilities which previously operated
- 18 under existing standardized composting permits to obtain a
- 19 compostable materials handling facility permit by a date
- 20 ascertained by the local enforcement agency. That date is
- 21 May 8th of this year.
- The governing standardized permit was issued in
- 23 1999. The proposed permit as submitted will not change or
- 24 enact any new entitlements for the operator. It will
- 25 however clarify details regarding the acreage and the

- 1 allowable waste types at the facility. Board staff and
- 2 the LEA have worked extremely hard to ensure that this
- 3 permit is the best possible document to describe the
- 4 facility as it operates today.
- 5 The permitted tonnage of 400 tons per day will
- 6 not be adjusted, nor would it change or increase the daily
- 7 traffic vehicle count. The site is not open to the
- 8 public. The operator will continue to accept processed
- 9 and compost seven days a week.
- 10 The facility is located in an area of low density
- 11 rural housing. Because of the location of the facility
- 12 and the variability of the local climate, there have been
- 13 numerous odor issues documented by the LEA over a period
- 14 of many years. These impacts were the subject of a
- 15 private legal action seeking to fine the facility as a
- 16 nuisance. That lawsuit was filed in 2002. It was found
- 17 to be appropriate, and an injunction was filed against the
- 18 operator in 2004.
- 19 That finding was appealed by the operator and all
- 20 conditions were stayed under that appeal. The appeal was
- 21 eventually denied. The injunction was upheld in June of
- 22 last year. And the operational requirements and
- 23 conditions contained in the injunction were incorporated
- 24 to every extent possible in the new permit.
- 25 The nearest residence is a little over a mile

- 1 from the permitted boundary. The LEA has documented
- 2 numerous complaints from that residence over the past
- 3 several years. In the fall, cooling air masses take some
- 4 of the odors from the site down slope to nearby receptors.
- 5 Grape pumace, a residual waste from local wineries, is
- 6 usually the source of most of the odor complaints. The
- 7 LEA has documented more than 60 confirmed complaints,
- 8 almost all of them involving grape pumace and coming in
- 9 the months of grape harvest, which is early fall.
- 10 The LEA has issued two Notice of Orders in 2004
- 11 and 2006 to the operator to control odors. On numerous
- 12 occasions over the past several years, Waste Board staff
- 13 have provided the operator with the most current technical
- 14 guidance we had available on best management practices and
- 15 other operational guidelines.
- The odor complaints did decline in 2007 resulting
- 17 in only two confirmed complaints last fall. The
- 18 injunction and the permit both address operational
- 19 mandates to minimize odors coming from the waste material
- 20 as well as other possible sources. Some of the methods
- 21 addressed in the permit to control odors are tarping of
- 22 the feed stocks and the use of aerated static piles.
- 23 On Friday of last week, Board staff were informed
- 24 that the Board members had received another letter from
- 25 the attorney for the plaintiffs in the legal action.

- 1 After reviewing the letter, we feel comfortable that all
- 2 issues raised in the letter had been adequately addressed
- 3 in the permit, except those involving water quality. Our
- 4 program director will be referring all water quality
- 5 issues to the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control
- 6 Board for resolution.
- 7 Waste Board staff will continue to work with the
- 8 Regional Board staff regarding solutions to the water
- 9 quality issues identified in state inspections.
- 10 There is no new CEQA document associated with
- 11 this item as this permit action is an administrative
- 12 necessity. The County of Mendocino, acting as lead
- 13 agency, issued an EIR in support of the standardized
- 14 permit in 1999. Staff have made all the required
- 15 findings, and therefore staff recommends that the Board
- 16 concur in the issuance of revised proposed permit as
- 17 submitted by the LEA. Should the Committee have any
- 18 questions, we would be happy to answer those.
- 19 Trey Strickland of the LEA is here today to
- 20 provide any additional background or information. And the
- 21 operator is also present to answer any questions.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Reinhard.
- 23 Any questions? Board Member Peace.
- 24 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I'd like to hear from
- 25 the operator. I have some questions of the operator. I

- 1 don't think I have any questions of staff.
- 2 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Is somebody else
- 3 going to speak? I think I think have questions for staff.
- 4 MS. VERES: Would you like me to give my name?
- 5 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Yes.
- 6 MS. VERES: Clearly, I'm not Martin. My name is
- 7 Jane Veres. I'm the permitting consultant for Cold Creek
- 8 Compost. So I'd be happy to answer your questions.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you. Stay put.
- 10 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I don't mean to go
- 11 through the whole thing again. But in 2003, it shows you
- 12 had eight violations for odor issues. In 2004, again
- 13 eight violations. And then in 2004, I guess it was so bad
- 14 neighbors felt like they had to bring a lawsuit against
- 15 you to do something about the odors. And then there was a
- 16 court order. Prohibited you from operating the composting
- 17 facility without maintaining odor control measures and
- 18 dust control measures and then also required the
- 19 implementation of a number of procedures and practices to
- 20 reduce odor.
- 21 But then you appealed, which stayed the order.
- 22 And then during the two-and-a-half years of the appeal,
- 23 you continued to rack up violations for odor. Again 2005,
- 24 you had five. 2006, you had nine.
- I was just wondering during that 2005-2006 period

- 1 when the court order was stayed, did you not think that
- 2 you had an odor problem? So did you try to even implement
- 3 any of the things that were in the court order during that
- 4 time?
- 5 MS. VERES: Many of the items that were listed in
- 6 the injunction, which I believe you have a copy of, were
- 7 instigated straight away. And it took some time and
- 8 experience to figure out how to make these things work.
- 9 The operator's experience obviously goes back a
- 10 lot longer than that. And the facility has tried
- 11 throughout the years to work on and use this experience to
- 12 develop techniques that will improve that situation.
- 13 The biggest influence we believe is the climatic
- 14 factor, the things that happen at certain times of the
- 15 year with the fall and the inversions, the fact we're on a
- 16 ridge surrounded by canyons. And it's notable the odor
- 17 complaints come down to one particular location.
- 18 So the types of things that are in the injunction
- 19 were implemented, but so were many other measures as well.
- 20 In particular, the monitoring of the weather patterns and
- 21 trying to make sure certain operations weren't conducted
- 22 when the weather pattern -- when the weather was changing
- 23 to the pattern we started to recognize was responsible for
- 24 some of that odor transmission.
- 25 So the answer is yes. They actually started

- 1 implementing -- in fact, there were processes in place way
- 2 before the injunction. They worked with the court expert
- 3 who was appointed to try to instigate what they could as
- 4 far as the injunction was concerned and continued working
- 5 on that while the legal issues were resolved. And in fact
- 6 the whole thing only came to an end in June of this year,
- 7 June 2007.
- 8 And there was actually a second case involved
- 9 from a legal perspective as well, which was there was a
- 10 challenge against the county's EIR. And that legal issue
- 11 dates back prior to the injunction. So the facility had
- 12 been working for a long time towards result in those
- 13 issues. We feel like it's taken some experience and some
- 14 time and the work of everybody, but we really believe
- 15 we've made great inroads into that.
- 16 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: It did say the court
- 17 order was reinstituted when you lost the appeal in June
- 18 of '07. I did notice that the odor complaints -- I
- 19 shouldn't say complaints. The odor issues that the LEA
- 20 wrote up dropped to two. So now you are telling me that
- 21 you're conducting your operations in accordance with all
- 22 the terms of the injunction?
- 23 MS. VERES: We're working as closely as we can to
- 24 everything that's in the injunction. The intent of the
- 25 injunction of course was to deal with those odor issues.

- 1 And we believe we're successfully doing that, yes. I can
- 2 talk -- I mean, in terms of the specifics of the
- 3 injunction, it may be better for me to refer to Therese
- 4 who's the attorney if that's helpful to you. I can talk
- 5 to you about the operation --
- 6 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: For the last year, the
- 7 LEA wrote up two State Minimum Standard violations for the
- 8 odor. I'm just wondering, did you get any letters from
- 9 residents or phone calls?
- 10 MS. VERES: We don't get direct contact from the
- 11 residents, no. The contact that the residents make is
- 12 through the local LEA. We've been working closely with
- 13 the LEA when we're aware of the complaint. We've put in
- 14 over the course of this year we put in a new complaints
- 15 process. One of the things we'd like to do is use any
- 16 information we can gather to try to feed what we're
- 17 learning from that back into the operational process. So,
- 18 no, nothing directly from the neighbors.
- 19 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I did notice that we
- 20 added letter V to your permit that does say you need to
- 21 follow all the conditions that are set forth in that court
- 22 order. I was glad to see that was added. Because I would
- 23 have had a very difficult time voting for this if it
- 24 hadn't been in there.
- That's all the questions I have for right now. I

- 1 might have some later.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Board Member Peace.
- 3 Board Member Danzinger.
- 4 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: I think my questions
- 5 at least initially may be more directed at staff and the
- 6 LEA. It's funny. Reinhard, I think the last time you
- 7 were before us it was like the third or fourth one in a
- 8 row that was a slam drunk. And I remember telling you I'm
- 9 sure all of your colleagues were envious of your items,
- 10 but it's come back in spades here I think.
- MR. HOHLWEIN: Yes, it has.
- 12 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: I want to echo
- 13 Cheryl's comments on the addition of Item V. I think
- 14 that's critical and that's good thinking. And I think
- 15 it's essential to moving forward and getting this
- 16 operation fully into compliance.
- 17 I assume -- because I noticed between the initial
- 18 and the revised permit there were a couple things in the
- 19 initial one that were not in the revised one. And I
- 20 assume that means that they were pulled out and
- 21 incorporated into -- well, for instance, there was in the
- 22 initial one there was one relating -- well, the first one
- 23 I caught was K in the "initial pathogen reduction,
- 24 windrows should be tarped or covered each night from
- 25 September 1, January 1, unless an alternative odor control

Please note: These transcripts are not individually reviewed and approved for accuracy.

- 1 measure has been approved by the LEA." That's not in the
- 2 revised one, and I notice that's one in the injunction. I
- 3 don't know whether that means there was a few in the
- 4 initial that we sort of pulled out because it sort of
- 5 incorporated all of the elements of the injunction that
- 6 were sort of interposing with the permit now. And that's
- 7 what that is?
- 8 MR. HOHLWEIN: Well, there have been --
- 9 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Unless I overlooked
- 10 something.
- 11 MR. HOHLWEIN: I think we've done as
- 12 comprehensive a job as we could have going back and forth
- 13 to make sure everything was covered. And I think that's
- 14 the language we arrived at to make sure the initial
- 15 concern was still there and that the injunction was dealt
- 16 with on its own at the end in mass.
- 17 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Okay. So it's
- 18 excising in revised version is the reflection of the fact
- 19 that's in the injunction. So by adding V, we sort of
- 20 covered those things.
- 21 MR. HOHLWEIN: I don't think we've ever had an
- 22 item where we worked harder to make changes and have gone
- 23 back and forth in so many iterations.
- 24 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Right. Right.
- 25 Okay.

- 1 And to come back to one of the issues that Cheryl
- 2 raised. Just so I understand. So a determination, final
- 3 or preliminary, has not been made that the operation is in
- 4 conformance with all of the measures of the injunction.
- 5 So the injunction has not been met right. I mean, the
- 6 requirements of the injunction, they have not been met; is
- 7 that true? Is that still a fluid process or what?
- 8 BRANCH MANAGER DE BIE: Mark de Bie.
- 9 The injunction is, you know, an action by the
- 10 court --
- 11 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Right. I'm not
- 12 about to get into a long diatribe on the injunction.
- 13 BRANCH MANAGER DE BIE: We can't really evaluate
- 14 whether or not -- because we're not the court. When we
- 15 look at the specific parameters outlined in the injunction
- 16 relative to how the site needs to be operated and then
- 17 look at the permit, we're seeing the correlations,
- 18 especially now with Item V in there.
- 19 In some regard, the LEA has determined through
- 20 their experience that the conditions they're layering in
- 21 the permit are as restrictive if not more restrictive than
- 22 the injunction requirements. So there are some
- 23 inconsistencies in what they're requiring and when they're
- 24 requiring certain things.
- 25 So for us to say whether or not the mandates in

Please note: These transcripts are not individually reviewed and approved for accuracy.

17

1 the injunction are being carried out we can't really say

- 2 that.
- 3 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: I know it's not to
- 4 us to make that finding. I guess my interest was are
- 5 there issues addressed in the injunction that are relevant
- 6 to a finding of State Minimum Standards?
- 7 BRANCH MANAGER DE BIE: The injunction -- it's
- 8 our understanding the injunction was focused primarily on
- 9 odors but also overlapped with dust. The State Minimum
- 10 Standard for odors is that the operator take actions to
- 11 minimize odors. And we are seeing current operations at
- 12 the facility that are entirely designed to do just that,
- 13 to minimize odors. But we don't have a threshold of
- 14 absolutely zero odors. It's continuously evolve your
- 15 operation to find better and improved ways to reduce the
- 16 odor impacts.
- 17 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: So the requirement
- 18 isn't to make a finding that at some point in time they
- 19 started doing something that was designed to minimize odor
- 20 and the determination was made at some point, okay, this
- 21 is what they need to be doing and then later there's a
- 22 finding it has resolved the problem. I'm just trying to
- 23 make sure we're not being asked to render a decision today
- 24 based upon a presumption that what they're doing now to
- 25 control odors is actually going to solve the issue.

- 1 Because we will be giving them a permit to continue
- 2 operating and with what degree of knowledge that the
- 3 actions they're taking on site are resolving the odor
- 4 issues.
- 5 BRANCH MANAGER DE BIE: I think as the
- 6 presentation so far has indicated, there has been a marked
- 7 decrease in complaints and verified complaints at the
- 8 site. So those actions that the operator is taking place
- 9 in the recent past seem to be more effective than what
- 10 they had been doing previously.
- 11 And we see in the permit additional measures --
- 12 let me take that back. Not additional measures, but
- 13 greater clarity on what those measures should be, more
- 14 definition around them so that the LEA will be able to
- 15 verify whether the operator is actually doing what he's
- 16 expected to do and be able to opine on that so the
- 17 enforceability is higher.
- 18 Also, into the future we understand the operator
- 19 is potentially going to be coming back for an expanded
- 20 site. And so there will be potentially another
- 21 opportunity for the Board to look at a more current record
- 22 of compliance relative to a permit coming up for an
- 23 expanded site.
- 24 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: We're in the
- 25 unenviable position of a facility with a spotty compliance

Please note: These transcripts are not individually reviewed and approved for accuracy.

- 1 history, and we're thankful that they're actually going to
- 2 go for an increase and expansion in their operation so
- 3 that we'll have an opportunity to verify that the odor
- 4 control measures they're doing now are actually working.
- 5 I'm sorry, Mark.
- 6 BRANCH MANAGER DE BIE: No. You did a very good
- 7 job throwing my words right back at me.
- 8 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: You've done it to
- 9 me. Why shouldn't I do it back?
- 10 BRANCH MANAGER DE BIE: My intent of sharing that
- 11 was that we'll have an opportunity to see how the new
- 12 improved permit functions with the LEA/operator
- 13 interaction with those expectations better defined and
- 14 then have an opportunity to address this sometime in the
- 15 future to say, yes, we confirm that this paradigm does
- 16 work or no it still needs more work. And so please be on
- 17 record you're not going to get this expansion potentially
- 18 until we see improvements. So that may be something we
- 19 look at in the future.
- 20 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: I agree that's a
- 21 good thing.
- I want to ask a question of the LEA if I can.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: If the LEA would come forward.
- 24 Good afternoon.
- MR. STRICKLAND: Good afternoon, Committee

- 1 members. I'm Trey Strickland with Mendocino County.
- 2 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Hi there. How are
- 3 you doing?
- 4 MR. STRICKLAND: Fine.
- 5 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: So you issue
- 6 compliance orders in late September '04 and late September
- 7 '06 to abate the odors.
- 8 MR. STRICKLAND: Correct.
- 9 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: And in between
- 10 those, about a year and a half before the second
- 11 compliance order, is when the injunction was issued
- 12 January '05.
- 13 And so what the report says is that the operator
- 14 did stuff to reduce, you know, the odors and whereby he
- 15 came into compliance with these orders by the compliance
- 16 date.
- So I guess my question is, if the injunction is still
- 18 outstanding and there's still odor related measures and
- 19 requirements in the injunction that remain to be
- 20 determined in a final sense, we have that being issued and
- 21 then a year-and-a-half later you issue a compliance order.
- 22 And since then at some point, I don't know when, you found
- 23 they were in compliance with your order issued in late
- 24 September '06.
- 25 So I'm just trying to figure out if the

- 1 injunction is still outstanding why you had set the bar
- 2 lower such that they met that bar sometime a year and a
- 3 half or two years after the injunction order but we still
- 4 got odor related issues in the junction order that are
- 5 outstanding.
- 6 MR. STRICKLAND: Well, when the injunction --
- 7 when the operator appealed the verdict against them, that
- 8 stayed the junction. So the operator was not complying
- 9 with the injunction in 2005. And because of the appeal,
- 10 there was no expectation from our point that he would be
- 11 in compliance with the injunction.
- 12 So the notice and order in 2006 was focused
- 13 towards the feed stocks that were -- and processes that
- 14 were generating the off-site odors, which at that time was
- 15 the grape pumace and PR windrows.
- 16 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: So there's a
- 17 distinction between the substance of the compliance order
- 18 that you issued and the issues that the injunction order
- 19 issued?
- MR. STRICKLAND: That's correct.
- 21 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Okay.
- 22 MR. STRICKLAND: The injunction I think attempted
- 23 to cover every aspect of the facility to minimize odors
- 24 and maybe specifically to minimize the potential for
- 25 anaerobic odors. The odor complaints that we had been

Please note: These transcripts are not individually reviewed and approved for accuracy.

- 1 receiving are not anaerobic odors. They're the odors
- 2 generated by the composting process that because of the
- 3 time of year and the change in the weather and we have the
- 4 inversion layer that basically floats the layers down to
- 5 an off site receptor. So we were attempting to address
- 6 the two materials that we had been detecting odors from
- 7 off site.
- 8 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Okay. It still
- 9 strikes me as odd that, you know -- I'm trying to get an
- 10 idea of how relevant you think the injunction order is and
- 11 are those issues that you as LEA -- it's been stayed.
- 12 It's still out there though and still an issue. So I'm
- 13 trying to reconcile in my mind what your role as LEA is
- 14 with respect to that. Even if it's stayed, aren't those
- 15 still issues? Aren't some of the people complaining to
- 16 you and starting the suit? Aren't those a lot of the same
- 17 issues? And so isn't that a pathway to resolving it?
- 18 MR. HOHLWEIN: I'm going take a stab at this,
- 19 which is when the injunction was stayed, they were not
- 20 bound by those terms. And the complaint-driven process is
- 21 what kept things going. And the LEA was attempting to
- 22 deal with those and those alone.
- The ones that are in the injunction are more
- 24 broad and more operationally succinct, and he didn't ever
- 25 specify those previously. He was just asking them to --

- 1 when they created odors to ramp up their operational
- 2 initiative to try and catch up to those. That's what
- 3 they're supposed to do with the odor mitigation measures.
- 4 They didn't do that sometimes as well as they could have.
- 5 So the injunction is a broader thing, and they
- 6 weren't bound by that until June. So in the mean time,
- 7 the LEA is struggling to keep up with the complaint
- 8 record, which is a more dynamic --
- 9 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: But the facility is
- 10 bound by the injunction as of June '07, right?
- 11 MR. HOHLWEIN: Right. That's what our effort has
- 12 been lately, to make sure those are incorporated as much
- 13 as possible while still dealing with the dynamics we have
- 14 in front of us which is a site that is suited well and a
- 15 facility that is sited well in some ways. But in other
- 16 ways it's kind of an ongoing problem that we're going to
- 17 keep trying to deal with with these progressive
- 18 operational tactics.
- 19 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Okay.
- 20 BRANCH MANAGER DE BIE: Member Danzinger, a
- 21 little piece, too. I think it was Board staff's advice to
- 22 the LEA in the past relative to the injunction that until
- 23 that injunction was upheld and solid that certainly the
- 24 LEA could look at it for advice on what they might want to
- 25 encourage the operator to do to change their operations

- 1 through enforcement. But since the requirements in there
- 2 were still sort of being debated in the system, I think
- 3 staff has to advise the LEA to fully engage all those
- 4 things until there was some resolution to that issue. And
- 5 then when we did see resolution of the injunction, we
- 6 advised the LEA that that was nice solid guidance from the
- 7 court-appointed expert that should really be something the
- 8 LEA goes to and starts layering into their process. But
- 9 prior to that, I think our advise was it's a little
- 10 premature to pick those things out and require them
- 11 unilaterally.
- 12 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Okay.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Board Member Peace.
- 14 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I guess if I was a
- 15 resident out there having to smell that I wouldn't have
- 16 thought it would have been premature to ask him to do some
- 17 of the things in the court order to alleviate those nine
- 18 violations of odors. And I would have thought the LEA
- 19 would have said, yeah, we have a problem here. Let's step
- 20 it up.
- 21 MR. STRICKLAND: Well, the court expert had been
- 22 working with us in preparing the injunction as well as
- 23 working with a consultant for the facility. And actually
- 24 it was a work in progress when the operator appealed the
- 25 judgment against them. So from my perspective, it didn't

- 1 seem like we ever reached the final draft of the
- 2 injunction. It was a work in progress that we stopped
- 3 working on once the appeal was stayed.
- 4 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: My concern partly is
- 5 the timing. It's just like, you know, why is it coming so
- 6 quick. You know, I mean, as of June '07, the injunction
- 7 is back in play. And I'm just trying to figure out --
- 8 see, because our hands are a little tied. We make
- 9 findings on SMS. Okay. And you have a lot more
- 10 flexibility as an LEA.
- 11 I'm trying to figure out why you had reached a
- 12 comfort level in bringing this forward now with the
- 13 injunction back in play. And I know that for our purposes
- 14 they're not the same. And, you know, you had made a
- 15 finding that they had met the requirements of the previous
- 16 compliance order while the injunction was stayed and thus
- 17 those were not relevant issues. But it's back in play as
- 18 of June '07.
- 19 I'm just trying to figure out. I look at and it
- 20 I think I don't know that I have a comfort level moving
- 21 this forward to the Board just yet. Why don't we give it
- 22 a little more time, you know. Because again we don't have
- 23 the flexibility you do to be able to, okay, injunction is
- 24 back in play. Let's get some of these things squared away
- 25 so I can move this forward for a permit because these are

- 1 things that might trouble the members of the Board.
- 2 So I guess that's what -- I'm just curious what's
- 3 your thinking on the fact that the injunction is out
- 4 there. Those are issues that have to be addressed. And I
- 5 don't know for certain that ultimately any number of those
- 6 issues may be relevant to minimum standards at some point
- 7 depending on what is required and how everything has to be
- 8 played out.
- 9 Can you give me something that gives a really
- 10 clear sense of where your comfort level came from that
- 11 this permit is ready now with those outstanding issues
- 12 back in play? I hate to put you in the position of
- 13 basically defending the operator. Maybe the operator can
- 14 help answer that. But I'm looking for a level of
- 15 confidence here. I have it from my staff. There's no
- 16 doubt about that. They have it, and they made a solid
- 17 finding. But there's still issues.
- 18 MR. STRICKLAND: Well, the record shows the odor
- 19 complaints go back since before I was the LEA. And we've
- 20 been working with the operator and their consultants over
- 21 the years. We've been working closely with Waste Board
- 22 staff, Jeff Watson included. Working with the Water
- 23 Board, working with our local planning department. It's
- 24 been a process over years where we feel like we know how
- 25 to get the odor from grape pumace under control. The PR

- 1 windrows is the next thing. Probably I guess the second
- 2 priority of concern with odors. And the last two years
- 3 the operator has voluntarily reduced the number of PR
- 4 windrows during at least a portion of the odor season in
- 5 the fall. So over the years we feel like we've developed
- 6 effective ways at controlling the odors that are traveling
- 7 off site.
- 8 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I have a couple more
- 9 questions.
- 10 Reinhard, you mentioned that the facility was
- 11 cited well in some ways and not in others. What did you
- 12 mean by that? Could it be that it's not -- did you mean
- 13 it's not cited well because it's on top of a ridge?
- 14 MR. HOHLWEIN: I'm not sure anyone necessarily
- 15 could have predicted that the climate change that comes in
- 16 the fall, which brings the cooler air down from the ridge
- 17 towards the people that live below it, mixed with the
- 18 unknown waste types that were not predicted when the
- 19 permit was issued. In other words, maybe they would have
- 20 known that the wine industry produced a lot of waste at
- 21 that time of year and that combined with the climate
- 22 conditions it would end up being a problem. I don't think
- 23 anybody would have really predicted that.
- 24 So we find ourselves with a site that is well
- 25 cited for other reasons, but not for this particular set

- 1 of problems, which is that --
- 2 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Have they ever
- 3 considered not to allow some of those certain waste types?
- 4 MR. HOHLWEIN: I have asked him that question,
- 5 would you consider not taking that waste, and he said, no,
- 6 he would not. And I asked him that in the sense that this
- 7 would resolve an incredible amounts of problems if he
- 8 would consider changing what he considers a vital part of
- 9 his recipe. And that's what he does, and I can't tell him
- 10 that he cannot do that. I can only deal with the problems
- 11 as they come up.
- 12 And I can say that the LEA has -- I've never seen
- 13 anybody work so hard on trying to keep up with a site.
- 14 I've never seen anybody that had -- or an office that had
- 15 a facility that took up so much of their time. We're
- 16 talking about considerably more than 50 percent of their
- 17 time trying to cope with this. They have made the effort,
- 18 and we will be back with another permit revision in the
- 19 future if things go forward as people would prefer. But
- 20 we still continue to deal with this particular set of
- 21 problems, which is that the descending air, which is
- 22 peculiar to the site, brings the odors to the receptors
- 23 that exist today.
- 24 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: If this particular waste
- 25 type continues to be a problem, is there any way that the

- 1 LEA or we say you can't take that waste type?
- 2 MR. HOHLWEIN: I can't say.
- BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: Madam Chair.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Yes.
- 5 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: I'm not a member of the
- 6 Committee. I was going to listen and learn for the full
- 7 Board discussion, but I'm hearing the discussion about the
- 8 odor migrating off site. But the fact is that it's being
- 9 managed in a way that has an odor. And are there not
- 10 pumace composting facilities in wine country that have
- 11 learned to not have an order or --
- MR. HOHLWEIN: That's a good question.
- 13 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: The one that comes to mind
- 14 is in the Napa Valley. And admittedly, I was here in on
- 15 the Board in the early 90s when he had a real problem. So
- 16 it's not as though there isn't a potential problem. But
- 17 there also are techniques.
- 18 I don't think it's the feedstock itself. It has
- 19 some probably I assume some special issues that need to be
- 20 managed. And there has to be techniques developed to
- 21 manage that. But the fact is that we have some
- 22 outstanding examples both in the San Joaquin Valley and in
- 23 the Napa Valley of grape pumace being composted. And it's
- 24 a very important waste to manage for agriculture and for
- 25 AB 939 diversion purposes. So I think talking about the

- 1 migration of the odor takes away from the question of why
- 2 does it smell.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Right. Good point.
- 4 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I think you were saying
- 5 a lot the odor is because maybe of the weather in that
- 6 particular low -- climatic conditions in that particular
- 7 spot. So maybe that particular -- their particular spot,
- 8 Cold Creek, isn't situated in the best place to be
- 9 composting that kind of -- so that's what I was asking.
- 10 Maybe it's the waste type and it's just not going to work
- 11 there. Or if they continue to do all the things that
- 12 we've set out, is that going to solve the problem?
- 13 MR. STRICKLAND: Well, I think over the last few
- 14 years the protocol that's been put in place to manage the
- 15 grape pumace has been effective at minimizing the odors.
- 16 It's now required to be covered by the end of the day
- 17 regardless of when it's received. Sometimes it's received
- 18 after hours. And when pathogen windrows are being built,
- 19 it's required to be placed on the bottom. So it's not
- 20 left uncovered, the grape pumace, oversight.
- 21 So theoretically any given night the grape pumace
- 22 is going to be completely covered. And that's been really
- 23 effective over the last few years at minimizing the odors
- 24 from grape pumace. In fact, we didn't know we were
- 25 getting odors from PR windrows off site until the odors

- 1 from the grape pumace were managed. And we realized there
- 2 were other odors there that were being masked or covered
- 3 by the grape pumace.
- 4 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Going back to something
- 5 that Jeff raised about the inconsistencies in specific
- 6 parameters. There was one here like in P where it says
- 7 they'll maintain a moisture content between 40 and 60
- 8 percent. Now the court order says approximately 45 to 65.
- 9 Is that going to create some sort of inconsistency, or do
- 10 you think it should match --
- 11 MR. STRICKLAND: You know, theoretically it seems
- 12 like it should match. The 40 to 60 percent was in the
- 13 original permit was originally going to be -- it was in
- 14 the draft EIR, not in the final EIR. It was in the
- 15 facility original RCSI 40 to 60 percent. Jeff Watson had
- 16 indicated that was the optimal range.
- 17 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: It sounds like the --
- 18 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: The court injunction --
- 19 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Expert said --
- 20 MR. STRICKLAND: She probably looked in a
- 21 different text book that referenced a slightly different
- 22 optimal range. I'm not a composting expert, but I don't
- 23 think there's a significant difference between those two
- 24 ranges.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Well, I guess my question, if

Please note: These transcripts are not individually reviewed and approved for accuracy.

- 1 I can, Board Member Peace, is not only with the -- there's
- 2 several items in the injunction that were brought up in
- 3 the February 7th letter to us from Conner Stevens. And
- 4 there's several issues: The size of the windrows, the
- 5 moisture content, and then the grape pumace piles. So
- 6 basically what you're saying -- what I'm hearing staff say
- 7 and you is that you did your best to address those in the
- 8 permit.
- 9 And so what I did was I went through the old
- 10 permit. I went through the revised permit that you gave
- 11 us on Thursday or Friday, whenever it was, but there still
- 12 are -- even though you added item V, there's still are
- 13 those inconsistencies. And I think that's what Board
- 14 Member Danzinger was referring to earlier, i.e., on the
- 15 moisture content. You know, at one point you're saying
- 16 you're going to adhere to the injunction. And then on
- 17 letter P of the permit under EA conditions, you know,
- 18 you're saying that the moisture content will be between 40
- 19 and 60 percent. So which is it?
- 20 And I think that's where we're having some
- 21 discomfort with that, because we're not really sure if
- 22 these things are in fact covered with the permit. At
- 23 least this Board member is not sure by the way the permit
- 24 is currently written.
- 25 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: There was one other

- 1 that I had seen just as another example. And maybe it is
- 2 in there somewhere else. But I noticed that the grape
- 3 pumace it's just referenced in the permit that it should
- 4 remain completely covered. I know it's in the injunction
- 5 actually identifies the thickness of the cover. I don't
- 6 know. Maybe that's already covered. But I know the
- 7 injunction specially lays out six inches. So that may not
- 8 be an issue for us in terms of our finding. But I didn't
- 9 know again is that something also that's not reflected in
- 10 what you're directing the operator to do.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Now again going back to that
- 12 though, the grape pumace piles, it says a minimum six inch
- 13 layer of finished compost or other bulky agent. When I go
- 14 to the permit, that item J does add the various cover
- 15 materials options. It clearly indicates that you added
- 16 that to the permit, which is good. But again the amount
- 17 of cover isn't specified. And I think that's, you know,
- 18 one of the questions that we have. Does that need to be
- 19 included in the permit?
- 20 MR. STRICKLAND: Well, when given the choice the
- 21 past two years, the operator has chosen to use tarps
- 22 instead of ground material or bulking agent to cover the
- 23 grape pumace. So when I was writing the permit, I was
- 24 thinking his preference was to tarp and didn't give a
- 25 minimum thickness for the other cover. But if he does

- 1 choose to cover with the bulking agent instead of tarps,
- 2 he could be bound by condition V, which directs him to
- 3 comply with the injunction and then the six inch cover
- 4 would be required.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Okay. But then again if you
- 6 go back to item P where they have the 40/60 on the
- 7 moisture content and then item V refers you back to the
- 8 injunction which is 45/65, again that's where I'm having
- 9 some trouble with deciphering what exactly does this
- 10 permit require.
- 11 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: It seems like for less
- 12 confusion they would match. They should match.
- MR. STRICKLAND: I agree they should match.
- 14 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: So you can change that
- 15 to say between 45 to 65 percent and that wouldn't be a
- 16 problem?
- 17 MR. STRICKLAND: Wouldn't be a problem for me at
- 18 all.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Michael.
- 20 STAFF COUNSEL BLEDSOE: Madam Chair, Michael
- 21 Bledsoe from the legal office.
- I think we could fix this problem that you've
- 23 identified by specifying either in the event of
- 24 inconsistencies the injunction will control or in the
- 25 event of inconsistencies the other provisions of the

- 1 permit will control.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: That would be helpful.
- 3 Because it is confusing. I mean, trust me, we've all
- 4 spent a lot of time as staff has on reading through this
- 5 permit and trying to figure out how this can work. So
- 6 that would be very helpful, Michael, if we can do that and
- 7 we can bring it back to the full Board next week for
- 8 consideration.
- 9 The other thing that I want to add is that
- 10 something else that would have me support this permit
- 11 would be if our staff would work with the LEA and
- 12 accompany them on the inspections for at least the first
- 13 six months following the concurrence of this permit.
- 14 And also I would like staff to report back to the
- 15 Board on a quarterly basis on how they are doing with
- 16 their progress in reducing odors. Because this problem
- 17 has gone on long enough. We are seeing some improvement,
- 18 but we need to be assured that we're making the right
- 19 decision here.
- 20 MR. STRICKLAND: And we would be happy --
- 21 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: That's another condition I'd
- 22 like to have.
- 23 MR. STRICKLAND: -- Reinhard or any other staff
- 24 out any time.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: I'm requiring with concurrence

- 1 of my Committee members that staff accompany you on those
- 2 monthly inspections for at least the first six months so
- 3 we all have a better comfort level that things are moving
- 4 in the right direction.
- 5 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: I think that's a
- 6 good idea.
- 7 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: That's a great idea.
- 8 Thank you, Madam Chair.
- 9 And in that same kind of regard there, odor I
- 10 guess really is subjective, especially when you're saying
- 11 you're only going to do something if there's moderate
- 12 odor. Who's to say whether it's moderate odor. And then
- 13 you go out there and it's determined by a sniff test. I
- 14 mean, it's all kind of subjective.
- 15 And especially if you're somebody working at the
- 16 composting facility, I don't think you're as aware of the
- 17 odors as if you're someone off site. And I heard Jane say
- 18 that the facility doesn't get the complaints that the LEA
- 19 does. They don't get them.
- 20 And then I was reading through some of the
- 21 letters that we got from the community. And one woman
- 22 says, "For nearly eight years I was treated by the county
- 23 staff like I was a crazy person when I called to complain
- 24 about the stench."
- 25 I'm just wondering how is it that we can make

- 1 sure that we get those complaints -- and I know we had
- 2 this happen with Hinkley. Didn't they set up some sort of
- 3 a hot line, or does somebody have some sort of a hot line
- 4 set up for complaints?
- 5 And then when I look at page 3 of the permit, it
- 6 says all copies of written complaints regarding the
- 7 facilities and operators' actions what they do to resolve
- 8 these actions. And those are kept on site and available
- 9 as requested by the LEA. There's nothing that says
- 10 they're going to address complaints that are made by phone
- 11 call. Do you only address the complaints from a written
- 12 letter?
- MR. STRICKLAND: No. Historically odor
- 14 complaints against a facility haven't been communicated
- 15 from the reporting party to the operator. They have been
- 16 reported to the LEA. And then I've gone and investigated
- 17 the complaint, made the determination, and notified --
- 18 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Do you do that only when
- 19 there's something written?
- 20 MR. STRICKLAND: No. There's some neighbors that
- 21 have my pager number. They'll page me in the evening and
- 22 I'll leave home and respond to the complaint.
- 23 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: So you don't think any
- 24 of the neighbors call the facility? Because here it says
- 25 all the copies of written complaints will be kept on site.

- 1 MR. STRICKLAND: If they receive complaints.
- 2 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: How about if they
- 3 receive a phone call?
- 4 MR. STRICKLAND: If they receive a phone call,
- 5 I'm sure they would consider that just as any other
- 6 complaint.
- 7 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I'm wondering if we can
- 8 make that more specific in the permit and say copies of
- 9 all written complaints as well as a log of all phoned-in
- 10 complaints will be kept at the facility.
- MS. VERES: I just thought I might be able to
- 12 help answer.
- 13 We have an appendix in the RCSI, which is a very
- 14 detailed complaints handling procedure. We put that in
- 15 place over the summer. The idea is that when Trey gets
- 16 any kind of response or any kind of call or contact from
- 17 the public, he goes out. We also have enlisted the help
- 18 of one of the neighbors to go along with him for the
- 19 reasons that you say. That if the operator was to go or
- 20 someone from the site, it's more difficult when you're
- 21 used to the smell to go assess it. So we have a neighbor
- 22 involved now as well. We've put together a whole protocol
- 23 for them to actually document what they smell. It doesn't
- 24 matter whether slight or moderate or strong odor.
- In order for it to be deemed a verified complaint

- 1 because it's an agricultural area, it's required to be a
- 2 strong odor. And that's the determination that Trey
- 3 makes.
- 4 Once we receive notification of the complaint
- 5 from Trey, then we have a protocol hopefully where we can
- 6 contact the neighbor. And to some extent that's a
- 7 relationship we're trying to re-build because obviously
- 8 the neighbors have been unhappy. And that's potentially
- 9 why we don't receive the calls direct from them.
- 10 But if refer to the appendix, it doesn't specify
- 11 whether it's any complaint at any level. We want to try
- 12 to respond to it and use the information if we can. If
- 13 there's enough information, maybe we can discern a pattern
- 14 that can help us improve the operation. So I forget which
- 15 letter -- there's quite a few appendices. I think it's H
- 16 maybe.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Why don't we do this. I think
- 18 there's a number of changes that the Committee is
- 19 requesting. So, Michael, you made a great suggestion on
- 20 reconciling the permit terms along with the injunction
- 21 provisions along with our concurrence to have our staff
- 22 accompany you on at least for six months of monthly
- 23 inspections and report back to us quarterly. So why don't
- 24 we incorporate those changes between now and the Board
- 25 meeting if that's okay. And we'll hear this at the full

- 1 Board. Does that work?
- 2 MR. STRICKLAND: Works for me.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you to the operator for
- 4 being here.
- 5 Staff, are you okay with that?
- 6 DEPUTY DIRECTOR RAUH: Yes. We'll bring it back
- 7 to the full Board.
- 8 And I just wanted to make a very quick comment
- 9 about the additional inspections just to keep in mind in
- 10 front of all of us that we have a series of additional
- 11 inspections per the strategic directives. This clearly
- 12 would fall in that category.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: This would be a primary
- 14 candidate for that.
- 15 DEPUTY DIRECTOR RAUH: And we are anticipating
- 16 inspections associated with ADC review and just to keep
- 17 that in mind.
- 18 MS. CANNATA: I'm attorney the representing --
- 19 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Excuse me. You need to come
- 20 to the microphone and you do need to state your name for
- 21 the record.
- MS. CANNATA: My name is Therese Cannata. I
- 23 represent Cold Creek Composting. I've been working with
- 24 Cold Creek probably we were engaged about three months
- 25 after the injunction was made final by the court. It was

- 1 made final in January of '05 and I became involved in
- 2 April of '05.
- 3 I want to make clear a couple of chronology
- 4 points I think will be very helpful as the Board considers
- 5 how to reconcile and deal with a facility that has an
- 6 injunction in place while we're also trying to look at a
- 7 permit that addresses the facility over the long term.
- 8 Because I understand that's a difficult sort of moving
- 9 parts to make work.
- 10 And here's what I want to make you understand the
- 11 goals we had coming out of that.
- 12 Number one, we knew we had to file an appeal and
- 13 we also had to respond to an appeal. On the time line
- 14 it's very important to understand that the lawsuit was
- 15 commenced by the five plaintiffs and the PC and
- 16 Association, which is the five plaintiffs, in 1998. That
- 17 was after that. And that was also private nuisance
- 18 action. So it was really a little bit before that.
- 19 The complaints seemed to go up and down a little
- 20 bit with the litigation. And mediation was tried, things
- 21 of that nature. And it was a little bit like sorting the
- 22 real from the unreal. And we've done as much as we can to
- 23 do it. There was sometimes very clear that some
- 24 complaints were geared toward the political or, if you
- 25 will, to court process.

- 1 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: We're familiar with that.
- MS. CANNATA: And other complaints might have
- 3 been very significant that the facility had to pay a lot
- 4 of attention to, such as the grape pumace and the weather
- 5 conditions all that. So coming out of all that in 2005 we
- 6 had -- even though the injunction was stayed, the prime
- 7 directive of the facility was to make sure that we
- 8 implemented immediately ways in which do reduce odor to
- 9 get to the point that I think we got in 2007 of finding a
- 10 way to get those complaints down to -- and I believe it
- 11 was one or two verified complaints in 2007 and that was
- 12 the big push.
- 13 When we got the order in June '06 that we were
- 14 also in addition to those other efforts -- and we were
- 15 working, by the way, with consultants, odor experts as
- 16 much as we could, when we got the word the injunction was
- 17 going to be final, we were also in the middle of this
- 18 permitting process. And what we're worried about --
- 19 obviously we don't want to do anything at that facility
- 20 that can bring those odors and back up. We are so proud
- 21 and happy that 2007 happened we don't want to go back to
- 22 2004. That was a tough time. So that's the delicate
- 23 walk.
- 24 And that's why if the Board is wondering why
- 25 didn't we go through the checklist of the injunction, we

- 1 were meeting with I believe Jeff Watson of the Board and
- 2 the expert and others saying, okay, this injunction has to
- 3 be carefully adapted to this facility. Because if you do
- 4 some things in that injunction, we can get to the
- 5 anaerobic conditions again, back to the odors. And quite
- 6 frankly, if someone says I complied with the injunction
- 7 but I had odors, I can guarantee you it would be not
- 8 heard. They would be saying but you have odors. But we
- 9 would say but we complied with the injunction.
- 10 We don't want to get caught between a rock and a
- 11 hard place. We want to make sure no odors. And we want
- 12 to make sure we have all of our ducks in a row in terms of
- 13 the court system and this Board and the Waste Management
- 14 Board's statutory compliance. It's a very delicate walk,
- 15 but I want to make sure you know how very committed we've
- 16 been to the process and how much resources we put in with
- 17 a team of experts at every angle to try to deal with this.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Well, we certainly understand
- 19 the complexities and the technical aspects of all of this
- 20 as well. And we don't want you to go back to 2004.
- MS. CANNATA: We never want to do that.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: So again, that's why we need
- 23 to have that comfort level of knowing that everything that
- 24 we could do we are doing. Everything that you can do you
- 25 are doing. Everything the LEA could be doing they are

- 1 doing as well. And that's all we're trying to achieve.
- 2 MS. CANNATA: We are 100 percent behind that.
- 3 And we want to get to that point where we can have 2008
- 4 also be without or very, very few complaints.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you very much for being
- 6 here.
- 7 Board Member Danzinger.
- 8 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Quick thanks, Mark,
- 9 Reinhard. Very difficult issue.
- 10 And part of the passion behind this is there were
- 11 complaints about odors. Well, the larger issue is the
- 12 fragility of the composting industry, which is absolutely
- 13 under siege. And everybody has a responsibility in that.
- 14 We have a responsibility to be a vigorous advocate for a
- 15 class of facilities that does this. But they have a lot
- 16 of challenges, you know. I mean, they're having trouble
- 17 competing in So. Cal because of low tipping fees and
- 18 elsewhere because of market dynamics may not be in place.
- 19 But one of the obligations that compost operators
- 20 has is to put out a good product and run their facilities
- 21 well so they don't undermine the credibility of the
- 22 industry. So when I get a composting operation that's
- 23 sort of behind he eight ball and trying to catch up, it
- 24 has a little bit more of an impact than maybe another type
- 25 of facility. Because it's an industry we want to see

- 1 succeed. I want this facility to succeed. I'm confident
- 2 we can do it. It's been going on for a long time and we
- 3 need to make progress and move it into full compliance.
- 4 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: Jeff put it very, very
- 5 well so I'll be very brief.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: I was going say ditto.
- 7 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: I want to echo his remarks
- 8 and say that I know from knowing the communities in this
- 9 area very well how important this facility is for a number
- 10 of feed stocks that need to be recycled. But on the other
- 11 hand, we sit through this siting and permitting hearings
- 12 and it was so difficult to site compost because of the
- 13 reputation it can't be done in a way that's compatible
- 14 with neighbors. So we have the dichotomy -- and in a way
- 15 we're promoting compost both ways both by supporting the
- 16 production of compost, but also regulating it in a way to
- 17 make sure it's done right so we don't have opposition in
- 18 the future of citing of additional facilities.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: We want everybody to be
- 20 successful. That's it. We want this industry to grow and
- 21 be successful. And so that's why we're expressing our
- 22 concerns and I think we're --
- 23 MS. CANNATA: I just have one small point, and I
- 24 want to make sure it's clear. I wanted you to understand
- 25 we were not sitting on our hands between 2005 --

- 1 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: I think you stated that
- 2 earlier. Thank you very much.
- 3 Our next item is Committee Item C.
- 4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR RAUH: Thank you, Chair Mulé.
- 5 Item C is Consideration of a New Full Solid Waste
- 6 Facilities Permit Covering Large Volume Construction and
- 7 Demolition as well as Inert Debris Processing for
- 8 Construction and Demolition Recycling of Los Angeles
- 9 County.
- 10 The permit as initially proposed contained
- 11 provisions that could have caused the LEA to be
- 12 responsible for enforcement of local land use
- 13 requirements. This is counter to Board policy and
- 14 regulation. And staff has worked with the LEA to remove
- 15 those requirements so that the permit before you today is
- 16 consistent with both the Board policy and regulation.
- 17 Here to present the item for your consideration
- 18 is William Marciniak.
- 19 MR. MARCINIAK: Good afternoon, Madam Chair and
- 20 Board members.
- 21 The construction/demolition facility is located
- 22 in the city of South Gate in Los Angeles County. It is
- 23 operated by Interior Removal Specialists, Incorporated.
- The proposed new full solid waste facility permit
- 25 will allow for the following: The receipt, processing,

- 1 and removal of materials and waste 24 hours per day, seven
- 2 days per week; a permitted area of seven acres; and a
- 3 maximum permitted tonnage of 3,000 tons per day.
- 4 The operator intends to develop the facility in
- 5 phases. Phase 1 will be up to 500 tons per day. Phase 2
- 6 will be up to 1500 tons per day. And Phase 3 will result
- 7 in full capacity of 3,000 tons per day. This will allow
- 8 the addition of the equipment and personnel as necessary
- 9 to process the daily tonnage received.
- 10 Included in the solid waste facility permit is
- 11 the requirement that each phase is limited to its
- 12 specified tonnage as indicated in the RFI. This is to
- 13 ensure that the design is adequate prior to acceptance of
- 14 an increase in volume. Only source-separated
- 15 construction, demolition, and inert debris will be
- 16 accepted at the facility. The operator will not receive
- 17 mixed municipal solid waste.
- 18 Twenty-four hour per day operations are necessary
- 19 because the operator conducts tenant improvement
- 20 demolition activities typically 24 hours a day with the
- 21 majority of the work being done during non-business hours.
- 22 The facility therefore must be open for IRS workers and
- 23 trucks 24 hours a day.
- 24 The LEA has certified that the application
- 25 package is complete and correct and the reported facility

- 1 information meets the requirements of the California Code
- 2 of Regulations and the LEA has determined that the permit
- 3 is consistent with and supported by existing California
- 4 environmental quality economic analysis.
- 5 The Board staff have reviewed the proposed permit
- 6 and supporting documentation and found them to be
- 7 acceptable.
- 8 In conclusion, Board staff recommends Option 1
- 9 that the Board 2008-26 for Solid Waste Facility Permit
- 10 Number 19-AA-1077.
- 11 Pete Oda of the LEA and Richard Ludt, and Carlos
- 12 Herrera and myself are available to answer any questions
- 13 you may have. Also it's staff's understanding the county
- 14 LEA would like to address the Board.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Bill.
- Richard, why don't you come up or Pete. Sorry,
- 17 Pete. Come on up.
- 18 MR. ODA: My name is Pete Oda. I'm with the L.A.
- 19 County LEA. Madam Chair, Board members and Board staff, I
- 20 don't know if this is usually a thing that the LEA does,
- 21 but I'd like to take this opportunity to credit this
- 22 company that is at the forefront of CDI recycling.
- Mr. Carlos Herrera, who is the owner of the
- 24 company, started as a young man working for a company that
- 25 demoed buildings and recycled many of the materials, such

- 1 as copper wire and metals. Mr. Herrera saw a vision that
- 2 he too would open a business called recycling. He takes
- 3 perfectly used furniture and donates this furniture, these
- 4 items, to whomever needs them. For example, churches,
- 5 nonprofit organizations, and to cities throughout L.A.
- 6 County.
- 7 Because of his dedication and commitment to the
- 8 industry, he has received WRAP awards ranging from 2001
- 9 through 2007. And some of the awards that were given --
- 10 in 2005, they received the Governor's Economic and
- 11 Environmental Award. 2006, they received the WRAP award
- 12 of the year. And that is something that this company
- 13 takes pride in. Also in 2006 they received a SWANA gold
- 14 metal award for recycling. Also in 2006, the SWANA silver
- 15 metal for special waste. And finally, in 2007, they
- 16 received the innovation award from the international solid
- 17 waste association.
- 18 So I think this operator is a model for the CDI
- 19 industry for recycling. I think they've shown throughout
- 20 years and years from 2001 until now that they are a good
- 21 operator and we need more companies like this.
- 22 So that's my presentation. Thank you.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thanks, Pete.
- I just -- any questions for staff or for operator
- 25 Mr. Oda? Questions? No.

- 1 Board Member Peace.
- 2 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I know what you're
- 3 saying. I have been to the facility. I know it is a very
- 4 well run facility. But I still have to ask these
- 5 questions.
- 6 One, I noticed that there's no traffic count in
- 7 here. I know that's at the option of the LEA. I have to
- 8 tell you I don't like that. I like seeing a traffic
- 9 count.
- 10 But when you're saying there's a 17 times
- 11 increase in all the traffic that goes along with that, a
- 12 neg dec was adequate in figuring -- just a neg dec was
- 13 adequate for a 17 times increase? It's going to
- 14 increase their --
- 15 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: The operator wants to come up
- 16 and answer that question. State your name for the record,
- 17 please.
- 18 MR. LUDT: My name is Richard Ludt with the IRS
- 19 demo with Interior Removal Specialists.
- 20 We did do a traffic survey. That was a
- 21 contingency of our conditional use permit with the city of
- 22 South Gate. We were not able to get the CUP without the
- 23 traffic survey and prove we were not going to have major
- 24 impact on the roads.
- Most of the incoming traffic we are looking at is

- 1 going to be off hours. We're providing incentives for
- 2 trucks to come in off hours to bring it in. But that was
- 3 the major concern of the city of South Gate before a CUP
- 4 came in. That item was addressed.
- 5 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: When you talk about off
- 6 hours, I guess you said there's a residential area that's
- 7 about a thousand feet away, do you know how going from 174
- 8 tons to 3,000 tons a day and operating 24-7, do you have
- 9 any idea how it's going to affect the neighbors?
- 10 MR. LUDT: Honestly, I don't see a huge effect.
- 11 We're operating 24 hours a day now for the most part. The
- 12 operation itself isn't changing. The noise is not going
- 13 to be significantly different. The dust issues are not
- 14 going to be significantly different because of the design
- 15 we have at the facility.
- Our facility is located about a quarter of a mile
- 17 off of the freeway. All of the traffic that is coming in
- 18 and then leaving the facility is on the off side of any
- 19 residential. So it's basically right off the 710 freeway
- 20 at Firestone. That's the major impact area. But the
- 21 residential streets and everything in the surrounding
- 22 areas is predominantly unaffected by the traffic counts.
- 23 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I just have one more
- 24 question. It says you're changing the name of the
- 25 facility from IRS to Construction and Demolition

- 1 Recycling. I was just wondering, do we know how the
- 2 facility is listed in the NDFE?
- 3 MR. LUDT: At the moment it is listed as IRS. I
- 4 questioned them when our renewal came up how easy it was
- 5 to change that. They said it was fairly simple to change
- 6 the name in that.
- 7 We didn't want to change the name until such
- 8 point as we actually had the facility open. And the
- 9 predominant reason for changing the name is the increased
- 10 feedstock that we're looking to bring in is coming from
- 11 our competitors in the demolition industry. And they're
- 12 not going to want an IRS box in the loading dock when
- 13 they're doing the demo. So by changing the name, we'll
- 14 have a different name on the boxes, and that makes it a
- 15 little easier for them to swallow.
- 16 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Nobody likes getting
- 17 anything titled IRS.
- 18 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: So I'm one of those
- 19 sticklers I like things to match up. And I realize your
- 20 site location and everything is specified in the NDFE.
- 21 But I'd like names to match up too. At what point do you
- 22 let them know your name is changing so they can make that
- 23 change?
- 24 MR. LUDT: As soon as we find out the permit goes
- 25 through and we actually open our doors to the public.

- 1 Until then, we thought it was premature.
- 2 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Okay. Thank you.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Okay. I just have no
- 4 questions. Well, actually I do have one question.
- 5 Going to 3,000 tons a day -- I've been to your
- 6 site a couple times, as you know, Richard. And I really
- 7 do applaud what you're doing there, Carlos. You're really
- 8 implementing our hierarchy by not only recycling, but
- 9 going to that second R, as I call it, the reuse. And it's
- 10 really critical. And again I applaud you for all of your
- 11 efforts.
- 12 I guess my question is just general in terms of
- 13 going to 3,000 tons a day. I'm assuming that you are
- 14 going to undergo some reconfiguration at your property and
- 15 additional equipment. So if you can just briefly address
- 16 that so everyone can understand.
- 17 MR. LUDT: At the moment we have a very small
- 18 portable sort line that we plan on operating for the first
- 19 year to 18 months of operation. The reason for that is at
- 20 the moment we do strictly interior high-rise demolition.
- 21 And we are very well versed in that waste stream. But
- 22 when we open our doors to the public, we lose control of
- 23 our waste stream for the first time in our operation. And
- 24 that's a little frightening.
- 25 So what we're planning on doing is operating this

- 1 portable sort line for the first year to 18 months. It
- 2 will easily handle in two shifts the tonnage we're talking
- 3 about. We will take that time to do a full waste
- 4 characterization of what we actually see once the public
- 5 starts bringing things in. At that point, we are going to
- 6 be designing about a two million dollar fully automated
- 7 sort line to handle the additional materials. But we
- 8 didn't want to embark upon that before we actually knew
- 9 what we were seeing.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thanks a lot for being here.
- 11 Thank you, Pete, for coming up.
- Do I have a motion?
- 13 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I'd like to move
- 14 Resolution 2008-26.
- 15 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Second.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: It was moved by Member Peace,
- 17 seconded by Member Danzinger.
- Donnell, could you call the roll, please?
- 19 SECRETARY DUCLO: Danzinger?
- 20 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Aye.
- 21 SECRETARY DUCLO: Peace?
- 22 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Aye.
- 23 SECRETARY DUCLO: Chair Mulé?
- 24 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Aye.
- We will put that item on consent.

- 1 And let's move to Committee Item D, Board Agenda
- 2 Item 3.
- 3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR RAUH: Yes, Chair Mulé. Item 3,
- 4 d, is Consideration of a Revised Full Solid Waste Disposal
- 5 Facility Permit for the Niland Solid Waste Site Located in
- 6 Imperial County. Operator error caused this facility to
- 7 exceed he permitted height limit and has been incurring
- 8 violations resulting from this mistake. The LEA took
- 9 enforcement. And the permit before you will bring the
- 10 facility back into compliance.
- Here to present the item is Dianne Ohiosumua.
- MS. OHIOSUMUA: Good afternoon.
- 13 Prior to beginning the briefing, I would like to
- 14 bring it to your attention there was a typo on page 3 of
- 15 the agenda item under the key issue header, the third
- 16 bullet in the first sentence. It should be 2001 instead
- 17 of 1991. Board staff will correct this item prior to the
- 18 Board meeting.
- 19 The proposed permit will allow the following: To
- 20 increase the maximum elevation, the closure date, traffic,
- 21 capacity, and to increase the daily tonnage on community
- 22 cleanup days.
- 23 Board staff has made all the required findings
- 24 except the finding that the site is in compliance with all
- 25 the State Minimum Standards because the amendment of the

- 1 report of disposal site information, the joint technical
- 2 document. However, if the proposed permit is issued, the
- 3 site will be in compliance with all the State Minimum
- 4 Standards.
- 5 Board staff finds that the LEA has made all the
- 6 necessary findings relative to the permit. Board staff
- 7 recommends that the Board adopt Solid Waste Facility
- 8 Permit Decision Number 2008-27 concurring with the
- 9 issuance of Solid Waste Facility Permit Number 13-AA-009.
- The operator is here as well as the LEA, and we
- 11 are here to answer any questions that you may have. This
- 12 concludes staff's presentation.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Dianne.
- 14 Do we have any questions for staff or the
- 15 operator and LEA? If the operator could come to the
- 16 microphone, we have a question. Please state your name
- 17 for the record.
- 18 MR. BRUNET: William Brunet, Director of Public
- 19 Works, Imperial County, operator of the site.
- 20 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: According to the permit,
- 21 you've got 38 years. You're changing the closure date.
- 22 That's 38 years. Okay. So you have 38 years to reach
- 23 84 -- eight feet more, it's going to take you 30 years.
- 24 You're asking for -- you're already at ten feet over what
- 25 you're supposed to have. You're already at 76. So you

- 1 only have eight more feet to go. But you put in your
- 2 closure date at 2046. So you think it's going to take you
- 3 38 years to get eight more feet?
- 4 MR. BRUNET: Well, it might. It might not. It
- 5 depends at the rate of what our county grows for landfill
- 6 disposal. Our population has been growing approximately 3
- 7 percent per year. We might close this landfill earlier.
- 8 This landfill currently serves the northeast
- 9 portion of the county. And if we do close, we'd have to
- 10 figure out where we're going to put this waste and other
- 11 portions of our other landfills.
- 12 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: It could take you 38
- 13 years to go up eight feet. But you're already over eight
- 14 feet from what you're supposed to be. How long did it
- 15 take you to get those --
- MR. BRUNET: We're only over eight feet in one
- 17 corner, the southwest corner of the landfill. From the
- 18 past practices, they've made an error in the placement of
- 19 the waste. And they didn't discover this until 2006 when
- 20 they did the aerial for the over flight. By doing this,
- 21 we increase it the eight feet, that increases the overall
- 22 capacity of the landfill. And the estimates are that it
- 23 would take to 2046.
- 24 But now if you look in this permit up in the
- 25 front, the original closure date is 2020 based on

- 1 estimates they made in 2001. But now that we've tracked
- 2 our data since then, I think the estimated closure date is
- 3 almost 2008. So they missed that by a little bit.
- 4 So like I said before, if our population
- 5 increases in the county, we take -- we're looking at other
- 6 long range issues where we can place our waste, we would
- 7 probably close this landfill earlier if we can find
- 8 adequate places to put our solid waste.
- 9 But like I said, this particular landfill
- 10 services 400 square miles in the county. So we're trying
- 11 to -- the purpose behind our landfills is to keep people
- 12 not having to travel long distances so they can dispose of
- 13 their waste. You're asking me to make a projection here
- 14 that I'm not qualified --
- 15 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: If it's going to take 38
- 16 years to go up eight feet, but you're already ten feet
- 17 over what you were supposed to be -- so obviously it took
- 18 many years to get over your permit limit. I'm just
- 19 wondering how come it took so long to catch it.
- 20 MR. BRUNET: Well, I can't answer that one. I've
- 21 only been at this position for 21 months. This
- 22 particular -- they did their last over fly in '94. And
- 23 then they did one in 2006. That's when they caught it.
- I think part of the reason is their past
- 25 practices that for doing the controlled placement of their

- 1 waste has been an error. That's something we're
- 2 rectifying now. We're getting better control how we place
- 3 our waste. I think we've had a philosophical change down
- 4 there how we operate our landfills. And we're trying to
- 5 improve on the past mistakes.
- 6 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: So your excuse for
- 7 going -- having unauthorized vertical expansion was the
- 8 infrequent flyovers and poor communication? So I'm just
- 9 wondering what was your excuse for all the other
- 10 violations like the intermediate cover violations, the
- 11 grading violations, the site security violations?
- 12 Are you addressing all of those?
- 13 I realize this is rural and it's small, but we
- 14 still want to be sure we protect the environment and the
- 15 public. How are you addressing all those other violations
- 16 you had?
- 17 MR. BRUNET: We have addressed them. As soon as
- 18 they become apparent, we've addressed hem. The LEA comes
- 19 out and does our inspection once a month.
- 20 Like I said before, I think we're trying to
- 21 change the culture down there. The philosophies of how
- 22 they've operated their landfills down there. And I think
- 23 we've had a vast improvement in the last two years.
- 24 I'm hoping that does satisfy you. We are trying
- 25 to make inroads into the way the landfills are operated.

Please note: These transcripts are not individually reviewed and approved for accuracy.

- 1 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Lars, could you state your
- 2 name for the record, please?
- 3 MR. SEIFERT: My name is Lars Seifert. I'm with
- 4 the LEA for Imperial County.
- 5 I just wanted to quickly also provide some
- 6 additional information to Board Member Peace regarding the
- 7 initial question on the site life capacity.
- 8 The actual what is stated on the permit, the
- 9 estimated closure date of 2008 and the remaining capacity
- 10 is a little different from what was submitted by the
- 11 consultant when they did the remaining capacity
- 12 estimations in 2006 for the five-year permit review.
- 13 Actually, the remaining capacity estimate at that
- 14 time put an estimated closure date at 2020. So this
- 15 increase actually goes from 2020 to 2046.
- In addition, in relation to the expansion figures
- 17 that you are provided, they were actually over the lower
- 18 part of the final grading elevations at the site. And so
- 19 actually only at the western end of the main deck were
- 20 they over. It was the lowest portion of the site. And
- 21 they were mainly over by about two to five feet. And it's
- 22 actually supposed to slope off to both corners. So the
- 23 north corner and southwestern corner are over by the
- 24 furthest amount, which is somewhere in six to ten feet at
- 25 the corners.

- 1 So they were actually only over for a small
- 2 portion of the deck, and it's at the lower end of the
- 3 deck. So an increase of 18 feet satisfies that basically
- 4 where the final elevation is going to be, they would be in
- 5 compliance. And it would raise the rest of the deck up
- 6 towards the east. So there would be a larger amount of
- 7 capacity than what it figures when you just think it being
- 8 another eight feet. So just to provide some clarification
- 9 on that issue.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Any other questions?
- 11 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Nothing substantive.
- 12 I was just struck by some of the comments I just noticed
- 13 in the community outreach. When individuals have replies
- 14 in there, it's usually they're complaining about something
- 15 going on in there. It looks like they just want to know
- 16 when it's closed. We want to know what we are not able to
- 17 use it. You have more people that want to use it. It's
- 18 very unusual under the outreach.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Board Member Peace.
- 20 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Can you tell me what
- 21 your financial demonstration is? Is it a pledge of
- 22 revenue?
- 23 MR. SEIFERT: Yes. The pledge of revenue goes
- 24 into the trust fund based on the capacity used each year.
- 25 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Some of the comments

- 1 were people from slab city saying they couldn't use their
- 2 landfill. I know technically they shouldn't be there
- 3 either, but can they use the landfill for a fee or are
- 4 they not allowed to use it?
- 5 MR. SEIFERT: They're allowed to use the landfill
- 6 for a fee. Our landfills are set up under a revenue
- 7 system that is through the parcel tax that we collect when
- 8 you pay your property taxes. There's no revenue collected
- 9 at the landfill site. If you are on a piece of property
- 10 that is within the parcel tax system, you have the right
- 11 to use the landfill. Obviously, the slab residents,
- 12 they're residing on State land. They're outside the
- 13 county's ability to assess the parcel tax. But they still
- 14 they have the ability to go down to our office, obtain a
- 15 permit, and then they can dispose solid waste there and
- 16 then build accordingly.
- 17 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Thank you.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Okay. Are there any other
- 19 questions?
- 20 Bill, thank you for being here. And Lars, thank
- 21 you for your comments. I am familiar with your situation
- 22 in the county. And I understand that you're trying to
- 23 change the way things have been operating for a long
- 24 period of time. And I know it's taken time. Frankly,
- 25 when I first read this item, I was troubled by the

- 1 compliance history. But I do understand now that you are
- 2 trying to correct things and correct the situation.
- 3 So with that, do I have a motion?
- 4 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I'll move Resolution
- 5 2008-27.
- 6 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Second.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: It was moved by Member Peace,
- 8 seconded by Member Danzinger.
- 9 We can substitute the previous roll and put that
- 10 one on consent as well. Thank you all for being here.
- 11 Our next item is Committee Item E, Board Agenda
- 12 Item 4. Ted.
- 13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR RAUH: Yes. Thank you, Chair
- 14 Mulé.
- 15 Item E is Consideration of a Revised Full Solid
- 16 Waste Transfer/Processing Station Permit for the Western
- 17 Amador Recycling Facility in Amador County. Here to
- 18 present the item is Mary Madison-Johnson.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Hi, Mary.
- 20 MS. MADISON-JOHNSON: Good afternoon, Madam Chair
- 21 and members of the Board.
- This facility is owned by the county of Amador
- 23 and operated by Amador Disposal System.
- 24 The facility is adjacent to the Buena Vista
- 25 Landfill, which stopped taking in waste in 2004. Waste is

PETERS SHORTHAND REPORTING CORPORATION (916) 362-2345

- 1 now handled at this transfer station and transferred to
- 2 Forward Landfill in San Joaquin County.
- 3 The proposed permit is to allow for the
- 4 following: Increase the maximum daily tonnage; increase
- 5 the maximum traffic volume; increase the acreage; and
- 6 increase in the hours of operation.
- 7 Board staff have determined all of the required
- 8 findings have been met.
- 9 In conclusion, staff recommends that the Board
- 10 adopt solid waste facility permit decision number 2008-28
- 11 concurring in the issuance of the solid waste facility
- 12 number 03 AA-0008.
- 13 The LEA and the operator are present to assist
- 14 you with any questions you may have.
- 15 And that concludes staff's presentation.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Mary.
- 17 Do we have any questions for staff? Board Member
- 18 Peace, anything? Board Member Danzinger? No questions.
- 19 Wow. Well, then do I have a motion?
- 20 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I'll move Resolution
- 21 2008-28 Revised.
- 22 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Second.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Moved by Member Peace,
- 24 seconded by Member Danzinger. We can substitute the
- 25 previous roll and put that one on consent.

- 1 Thank you for being here. Thank you, Mary.
- 2 Our next item is Committee Item F, Board Agenda
- 3 Item 5.
- 4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR RAUH: Item F is Consideration of
- 5 the Adoption of a Negative Declaration and Proposed
- 6 Regulations on the Mammalian Tissue Composting.
- 7 This item has been before you several times
- 8 during the regulatory development process. A version of
- 9 the regulations before you today does not present any new
- 10 policy issues and response to the previous direction
- 11 provided by the Board.
- 12 The staff prepared a negative declaration for the
- 13 purpose of furthering discussion and public participation
- 14 regarding the regulations. However, this step is not
- 15 required under the law, because the project qualifies for
- 16 an exemption under CEQA.
- 17 We received one comment from San Joaquin Valley
- 18 APCD, Air Pollution Control District, which will be
- 19 discussed as part of the staff's presentation.
- 20 Staff recommendation has changed on this item
- 21 based on this comment and communication with San Joaquin
- 22 Valley. While we seek your adoption of the regulations,
- 23 we do not seek your adoption of the negative declaration.
- 24 Based on your direction today, staff will revise
- 25 the resolution prior to the Board meeting to provide for

- 1 the Board to find the project exempt from CEQA.
- 2 Here to present the item is Robert Holmes.
- 3 MR. HOLMES: Good afternoon, Madam Chair,
- 4 members.
- 5 For the record, I'll just go over a brief history
- 6 of the rulemaking piece of this item.
- 7 The Board first adopted emergency regulations in
- 8 April of 2007. Those emergency regulations went into
- 9 effect on June 18th, 2007.
- 10 In April of '07, the P&C Committee also directed
- 11 staff to initiate the formal rulemaking process for the
- 12 permanent regulations. The 45-day comment period ran from
- 13 September 7th through October 22nd, 2007.
- 14 Staff held a public hearing on November 1st,
- 15 2007.
- And then on December 3rd, 2007, the P&C Committee
- 17 directed staff to initiate a 15-day comment period for
- 18 changes. That comment period ran from December 7th
- 19 through December 28th. Actually longer than 15 days
- 20 because of the holiday through in an extra week there. We
- 21 received no comments during the second 15-day comment
- 22 period on the regulations.
- 23 As Ted mentioned, in order to comply with CEQA,
- 24 staff prepared an initial study. Although technically the
- 25 regulations could have qualified under CEQA as an

- 1 exemption, it was our intention to solicit information
- 2 that may further justify the factual findings of a threat
- 3 to the environment.
- 4 We received one comment during the comment period
- 5 on the circulation of the initial study from the San
- 6 Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District.
- 7 Essentially they had five points, but their comments can
- 8 be summarized as they didn't feel that the initial study
- 9 went far enough in terms of assessing the air quality
- 10 impacts of the emergency temporary composting part of the
- 11 rule.
- 12 The proposed regulations do two primary things.
- 13 One is it allows for research operations using mammalian
- 14 tissue. They want to find additional research. They're
- 15 not so much concerned about that part of it. But with the
- 16 emergency regulation part of it, they felt that there were
- 17 air quality impacts from that. So we had some discussions
- 18 with them. We narrowed down their primary concerns with
- 19 VOCs, volatile organic compounds.
- 20 So we did some analysis based on the tonnages of
- 21 and the numbers of animals that we had mortalities. In
- 22 the summer of 2006 heat wave event, we used air emissions
- 23 factors from the recent Modesto composting study which
- 24 looked at the incorporation of 15 percent food material.
- 25 We don't have direct data on emissions from animal tissue.

- 1 That's why we're doing the research. We used the best
- 2 approximation. We calculated a VOC emissions of 42 tons
- 3 over the life of the 2006 event, which would have been
- 4 minimum of three weeks up to six-month period where the
- 5 animals would have been composted. So it's 42 tons of
- 6 VOCs.
- 7 That compares, just for your information, based
- 8 on the district's own studies, they have 375 tons per day
- 9 from all sources of VOCs in the district. However, their
- 10 significance criteria under CEQA they have set at ten tons
- 11 per day. So our 42 tons for the event exceeds their
- 12 significance criteria. So unless we can mitigate through
- 13 the regulations to below that level of then technically
- 14 under CEQA an EIR is required.
- 15 So given the fact that we recognize the fact that
- 16 the air district is trying to protect the air quality in
- 17 the district, but there are other considerations in terms
- 18 of impacts on the environment that we feel the Board is
- 19 looking out for. There are other impacts from other
- 20 alternative options, including landfilling. We're talking
- 21 about greenhouse gas emissions from landfilling. We're
- 22 talking about the transportation impacts from moving the
- 23 animals off site.
- And the example that I keep saying each time I'm
- 25 here before you, but it's a very real and potential

- 1 impact. If we're talking about a disease situation, an
- 2 infectious disease where it's infectious to animals or
- 3 humans, it is very likely that either USDA or the State
- 4 Veterinarian will quarantine that property and not allow
- 5 the movement of those animals off site at all. So you
- 6 can't talk about any type of off-site management solution.
- 7 Also in some exercises that we did relative to
- 8 the bird flu avian influenza, that material may be
- 9 considered a medical waste which cannot go into landfills
- 10 unless it's first treated. So we're not going to be using
- 11 compost as a treatment method there.
- 12 So that all brings us back -- and Ted mentioned
- 13 the staff recommendation now is to adopt the regulations
- 14 as they were put out during the second 15-day comment
- 15 period and also find that the regulations are exempt from
- 16 CEQA.
- 17 I don't recognize anyone from the district in the
- 18 audience today. Unless I'm mistaken, they're not here.
- 19 But Mr. John Rowden, who is the manager of the Department
- 20 of Food and Agriculture's Emergency Preparedness and
- 21 Support Unit, which is within the Animal Health division,
- 22 is here and is willing to address the Committee if you so
- 23 fit.
- 24 That concludes my presentation.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Bob.

- 1 Do we have any questions for Bob or for John?
- 2 Any questions?
- 3 I just have one question, Bob. You said that
- 4 there was 42 tons of VOC generated. Is that per day, 42
- 5 tons per day from that event, or that was total VOC
- 6 emissions?
- 7 MR. HOLMES: Total VOC emissions for the event.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: How long did you say the event
- 9 was?
- 10 MR. HOLMES: The heat was a couple week period.
- 11 But the animals would have been composted from anywhere
- 12 from four weeks to six months until they stopped emitting.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: So I guess for me I understand
- 14 the APCD's concern with the VOC emissions. But I think if
- 15 we look at a couple of things, if we look at the broader
- 16 context of protecting the environment as well as public
- 17 health and safety -- and the other thing that struck me
- 18 about this is that it is just a temporary event. It's not
- 19 continuous. It's not ongoing. And I'm glad that CDFA is
- 20 here. Thank you for being here. I just want to make sure
- 21 that you're comfortable with this as well. I don't want
- 22 to send the message to APCD that we're ignoring their
- 23 criteria. But at the same token, I think, you know, we
- 24 need to look at that, but we also need to look at the
- 25 broader context of this whole regulations package.

- 1 Could you state your name?
- 2 MR. ROWDEN: If I may. John Rowden, and I'm with
- 3 CDFA.
- 4 I first of all would like to compliment the Waste
- 5 Board for working with us so closely on that stakeholders
- 6 group on this particular issue. And one of the things
- 7 that's really helpful with that group is to have all these
- 8 various voices, you know, at the table. You know,
- 9 everybody's perspectives brought to bear. So I think
- 10 everybody including the industry, both the rendering
- 11 industry, the dairy industry, the waste industry,
- 12 everybody is really understanding the perspectives of the
- 13 various regulatory groups. It's been very helpful for us
- 14 to bring that perspective.
- 15 I don't think anyone would foresee a situation
- 16 unless it was a dire situation where we had a severe
- 17 animal disease outbreak. Nothing like the heat wave. But
- 18 something where we really couldn't move carcases off site
- 19 would you ever see anything like this.
- 20 We're moving with an abundance of caution to make
- 21 sure that composting is effective and look at the specific
- 22 environmental effects that it may present and any kind of
- 23 mitigation measures that we can determine.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you. If we don't have
- 25 any questions or comments, do I have a motion?

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I thought you were going

- 2 to revise it and --
- 3 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: We need to revise this
- 4 Resolution then and bring it back to the full Board.
- 5 STAFF COUNSEL BLEDSOE: We do need to revise the
- 6 Resolution to delete the paragraph regarding negative
- 7 declaration and insert a paragraph about exemption from
- 8 CEQA.
- 9 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: We can't act on this today?
- 10 STAFF COUNSEL BLEDSOE: We sometimes do modify
- 11 the Resolution at the direction of the Committee. So we
- 12 can proceed today or we can bring it back with the exact
- 13 wording for the full Board.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: I don't know about my fellow
- 15 Committee members, but I'm comfortable with you coming
- 16 back with the wording and we can act on this today. I
- 17 think we're all in agreement that we want to move this
- 18 forward.
- 19 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: It was just the one line
- 20 you need to strike out, "Now, therefore be it resolved,
- 21 the Board adopt a negative dec."
- 22 STAFF COUNSEL BLEDSOE: My recollection is
- 23 there's probably three or so sentences that relate to --
- 24 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: So you need to go
- 25 through it and make sure. If you want to go through it

- 1 and --
- 2 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: That's what I'm saying. We've
- 3 discussed the revisions. I think we all -- again, I don't
- 4 want to put words in my Committee member's -- but I just
- 5 want to make sure we all agree that based on the
- 6 discussion we just had we're comfortable with moving the
- 7 resolution as revised as just discussed.
- 8 STAFF COUNSEL BLEDSOE: Yes. And we'll circulate
- 9 that by the end of the day.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Very good. So do I have a
- 11 motion to move the Resolution as revised per the direction
- 12 of the Committee?
- 13 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I'll move Resolution
- 14 2008, right, not 2007. Resolution 2008-29 as revised per
- 15 the direction of the Committee.
- 16 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Second.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: It was moved by Member Peace,
- 18 seconded by Member Danzinger. And without further ado,
- 19 we'll substitute the previous roll.
- 20 And can we put this on consent, Michael, or will
- 21 it need to come back to the full Board?
- 22 STAFF COUNSEL BLOCK: It's your choice. You can
- 23 put it on consent based on the motion you just made with
- 24 the idea that if for some reason you can pull it off.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Let's put it on consent. And

- 1 then if anybody has an issue, they can always pull it.
- 2 Let's move to Committee Item G.
- 3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR RAUH: Yes. Chair Mulé, this
- 4 last item from this program is a discussion item. And
- 5 it's to bring the Committee up to speed with where we are
- 6 on the financial assurance activity. And here to make
- 7 that presentation is Bill Orr.
- 8 (Thereupon an overhead presentation was
- 9 presented as follows.)
- 10 DIVISION CHIEF ORR: Good afternoon, Chair Mul
- 11 and Committee members. For the record, my name is Bill
- 12 Orr, Chief of the Closure, Cleanup, and Financial
- 13 Assurances Division.
- 14 This item is actually similar to a presentation
- 15 that was made last October by Bernie Vlach on Phase I.
- And what I'd like to do today is to update the
- 17 Committee on what's transpired since the December
- 18 Committee meeting, share refinements to the staff approach
- 19 for Phase 2, and present the schedule of upcoming
- 20 workshops.
- 21 --000--
- 22 DIVISION CHIEF ORR: Focusing on the refinements
- 23 to our staff approach, we plan to continue the AB 2296
- 24 consulting group. We found that was a very effective
- 25 means of getting feedback on the process and the substance

- 1 during Phase I. But we're hoping to do so in a more
- 2 interactive fashion. I think everyone felt rushed as we
- 3 looked at closure and postclosure issues in Phase I in the
- 4 fall. And so we plan on taking a more deliberative
- 5 approach.
- 6 One thing we plan on doing is utilizing more of a
- 7 round table approach instead of more of a theater style
- 8 where we can generate more interaction between
- 9 stakeholders and develop more working solutions. We also
- 10 plan on having Rubia Packard provide neutral facilitation
- 11 services for the meetings.
- 12 Per the direction of the Committee and our
- 13 general approach, we want to utilize sound science and the
- 14 best information available.
- 15 One of the things that came up during the fall
- 16 was we had the contractor that was receiving various
- 17 technical documents and it wasn't always clear to
- 18 stakeholders how the information that they were providing
- 19 was being utilized in developing their report. Well, at
- 20 this point, the process is ours and staff has taken
- 21 ownership of that process. So one of the things that we
- 22 will make sure is that the documents previously provided
- 23 and ones that are received going forward will be fully
- 24 analyzed by staff and that information will clearly be
- 25 accounted for in the working documents.

- 1 In addition to that, we'll be collecting
- 2 information on what's going on around the country. I'll
- 3 be talking about that a little bit more in other states
- 4 and U.S. EPA. We'll be actually taking a look at actual
- 5 costs in terms of postclosure maintenance. And one of the
- 6 things we found to date in looking at our own records is
- 7 we don't have much information to either defend or refute
- 8 the claim that postclosure maintenance costs will go down
- 9 or up over time.
- 10 What we're seeing in our records is simply people
- 11 are requesting payments based on an annual increment. So
- 12 it may or may not reflect the actual cost. They may just
- 13 be requesting a percentage of what they know they have.
- 14 And that amount may be lower or higher than what it's
- 15 really costing. So we've already put out the word that
- 16 we'd like to get more information from actual costs from
- 17 landfill operators.
- 18 We're also conducting a compliance review of
- 19 California landfills for all 282 landfills that are
- 20 covered by the closure/postclosure requirements. And
- 21 we'll be ground truthing the risk model components that
- 22 were presented by the contractor. That will incorporate
- 23 information on our own SWIS database, various compliance
- 24 orders, information from the Regional Water Boards as
- 25 well.

- 1 In fact, one of the things that came up during
- 2 our stakeholder workshops is that the L.A. County
- 3 Sanitation District was planning on doing a similar
- 4 activity, and we've agreed to work together on that. So
- 5 that was one of the real beneficial outcomes that we've
- 6 already had in our process so far.
- 7 Moving on briefly to the schedule. We will be
- 8 having monthly workshops commencing at the end of this
- 9 month. Public notices are being prepared and will be
- 10 posted on BAWDS later this week.
- 11 --00o--
- 12 DIVISION CHIEF ORR: And Board members are
- 13 definitely encouraged to participate. These all will be
- 14 publicly noticed meetings, and so there's not a problem
- 15 with that going forward.
- Just as a side note, the Phase I regulations were
- 17 submitted to the Office of Administrative Law back on
- 18 January 10th, and we expect to hear back from OAL
- 19 regarding those regulations by February 26th.
- 20 --000--
- 21 DIVISION CHIEF ORR: In terms of what's gone on
- 22 in January and the beginning of February, we did follow up
- 23 on the Committee's direction on the low compliance rate
- 24 for the water corrective action financial assurances. We
- 25 actually met with Dorothy Rice and her staff back in

- 1 December.
- 2 And then about a week or so ago, I participated
- 3 with a meeting of all of the Regional Water Board
- 4 executive officers regarding this situation. And they
- 5 basically committed to working with us through the
- 6 Regional Water Board round tables to increase the
- 7 compliance. And since that meeting, I can report that
- 8 staff is already getting inquiries back on the status of
- 9 their corrective action financial assurances. So we will
- 10 be working with them going forward on that as well.
- We also held a series of three stakeholder group
- 12 meetings. The intention of one was to review the
- 13 responses to comments on what their concerns were during
- 14 Phase I. One of the recurring comments that we got was
- 15 they never really knew how we addressed their comments.
- 16 So we've drafted a response to comment document. We
- 17 shared that with the stakeholders in these three
- 18 stakeholder meetings and have given them two weeks to
- 19 identify whether we've responded to their comments or
- 20 whether there are additional comments that we did not
- 21 respond to. We expect those by the end of this week.
- We also discussed outstanding issues that each of
- 23 the stakeholder groups had. And then we outlined the
- 24 schedule that we're talking about this afternoon going
- 25 forward.

- 1 A fourth meeting has been scheduled also with
- 2 local government at large representative, CSAC, the League
- 3 of Cities, and others, for February 21st.
- 4 --000--
- 5 DIVISION CHIEF ORR: Looking forward, in
- 6 February, as I mentioned, we will be having a -- we have
- 7 today's update. And we will be having a modeling
- 8 scenarios workshop on the potential risk model.
- 9 Notices were sent out to stakeholders last Friday
- 10 with a tentative list of scenarios that we've already
- 11 analyzed. It also includes a description of the base case
- 12 that was analyzed by ICF, the contractor. And it includes
- 13 a list of the variables that can be changed in the model
- 14 and also some instructions on how to run the various
- 15 scenarios. We requested additional suggestions in terms
- 16 of scenarios to consider as part of the workshop by
- 17 February 22nd.
- 18 --000--
- 19 DIVISION CHIEF ORR: In March, we will be having
- 20 a workshop on postclosure maintenance activities. One of
- 21 the first things we'll be looking at is defining what
- 22 activities are to be included in corrective action versus
- 23 which activities are to be included in postclosure
- 24 maintenance.
- That's important for a variety of reasons, but

- 1 one of the most important things is to make sure -- well,
- 2 there's two important reasons. To make sure all things
- 3 are accounted for and things are not required to be
- 4 included twice. So there's the flip side of that.
- 5 Also we'll be looking at various criteria that
- 6 have been looked at for determining the end of the
- 7 postclosure maintenance period. That's some of the
- 8 documentation that I referred to earlier that's been
- 9 provided to us. We'll be looking at what U.S. EPA and
- 10 other states are doing, and I'll be talking about that
- 11 more in just a second.
- 12 We'll be looking at what the California
- 13 experience has been. So far, we've had landfills that are
- 14 about 15 years into the postclosure maintenance, but as
- 15 part of our compliance survey and other activities we'll
- 16 be coming up with more specific information to provide a
- 17 comprehensive picture of that. And then we'll identify
- 18 areas that may need additional statutory change.
- --o0o--
- 20 DIVISION CHIEF ORR: As an example of what staff
- 21 has done already, we've actually established relationships
- 22 with a network of all 50 states in terms of their solid
- 23 waste representatives and had done an initial survey
- 24 regarding the requirements for postclosure maintenance for
- 25 landfills under Subtitle D.

- 1 We received an incredible response. Forty-eight
- 2 states outs of the 50 have responded to the survey. Six
- 3 of them are actually actively working in the area of
- 4 postclosure maintenance doing various things. But all of
- 5 the states are very interested in what we're doing and the
- 6 results of additional survey activities.
- 7 Staff intends to continue to use this tool to
- 8 solicit additional relevant information from states over
- 9 the next six months. This is just sort of an example of
- 10 the kind of thing we've already started to do.
- 11 --000--
- 12 DIVISION CHIEF ORR: In April, we'll be looking
- 13 at corrective action, that specific chunk that will
- 14 include the results of the landfill compliance survey I
- 15 mentioned earlier. We'll also look at alternative options
- 16 and methodologies for classifying the landfill. Potential
- 17 threats, that could be looking at alternative criteria or
- 18 alternative methodologies.
- 19 We'll also be following up with the Water Board
- 20 in terms of piggy-backing on their current reasonably
- 21 foreseeable financial assurance program to make sure that
- 22 we coordinate our rulemaking with any rulemaking that may
- 23 be needed on their part. And similarly we'll identify any
- 24 potential statutory amendments.
- 25 --000--

- 1 DIVISION CHIEF ORR: In May, we'll be basically
- 2 having an informal workshop to bring together the things
- 3 that are covered in the postclosure maintenance and
- 4 corrective action workshops in February, March, and April.
- 5 But also we'll be bringing forward the issues that were
- 6 deferred from the Phase I rulemaking that include the
- 7 contingency on postclosure maintenance cost estimates, the
- 8 submittal of as-built costs after closure, and proposed
- 9 amendments to the assurance mechanism.
- 10 Along with that, during the stakeholder process,
- 11 the contractor had raised questions about standardizing
- 12 some of the provisions in the Pledge of Revenue Agreement.
- 13 And then the other things that will be talked about as
- 14 part of that would be the post 30-year financial assurance
- 15 demonstrations and the non-water quality corrective action
- 16 measures.
- 17 And one of the things that came up again during
- 18 the Phase I process was what we've come to call the
- 19 fund-as-you-fill approach as to estimating landfill
- 20 closure costs. That was something that the Committee gave
- 21 us direction to proceed with. We've actually raised it
- 22 with a number of landfill operator groups and with LEAs.
- 23 We don't have any takers at this point. But if there's
- 24 any additional regulatory changes that would need to be
- 25 made to consider that approach, that would be another item

- 1 that would be considered during this May workshop.
- 2 --000--
- 3 DIVISION CHIEF ORR: In June, we basically would
- 4 be planning on coming back for a similar item as we had in
- 5 December seeking additional direction from the Committee
- 6 based on a menu of policy options for long-term
- 7 postclosure maintenance and corrective action.
- 8 Probably the biggest difference here is the last
- 9 time we did it, it was more of a triage to narrow the
- 10 things we were looking at. In June, we would be looking
- 11 to actually have a comprehensive proposal for
- 12 consideration by the Committee that would include the
- 13 items to include in the Phase 2 rulemaking and also
- 14 identify those items which might require additional
- 15 statutory authority.
- 16 --00o--
- 17 DIVISION CHIEF ORR: And then on the heals of
- 18 that, in July, we would be coming back to the Committee to
- 19 seek rulemaking direction based on what direction we
- 20 receive in May to actually initiate the formal rulemaking
- 21 process.
- 22 And this whole time line is geared toward meeting
- 23 the second set of deadlines in AB 2296 of having these
- 24 regulations and additional recommendations done by June,
- 25 the end of June of 2009.

- 1 So that concludes my update, and I would be happy
- 2 to answer any questions.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Bill. I think that
- 4 was a very good overview of the process and the time line.
- 5 Really appreciate it.
- 6 I guess I just have one request. I heard you
- 7 indicate that you had sent out some information on
- 8 modeling scenarios.
- 9 DIVISION CHIEF ORR: Yes.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: I was just wondering if it's
- 11 possible when you send information out to the stakeholder
- 12 group if you can include Board offices on those e-mails or
- 13 separately. However you want to do it. This is an issue
- 14 that I think is -- we all know it's very important. And
- 15 it does have the interest of all the Board members. So I
- 16 just think it would be -- instead of us having to try to
- 17 keep track of it, if you could help us with that, that
- 18 would be very helpful. Appreciate it.
- 19 DIVISION CHIEF ORR: That's fully my intention.
- 20 If I didn't send that to you on Friday -- I did send out
- 21 meeting notices for all of the workshops. I think it may
- 22 have been in there. If it wasn't, I'll send it out as
- 23 soon as I get back to my desk.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Any other questions or
- 25 comments for Bill?

- 1 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Looks like you're going
- 2 to be very busy.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: A lot of work. And again I
- 4 appreciate all of your work, Bill, and staff's work on all
- 5 this. Thank you.
- 6 Our final item for today is Committee Item H,
- 7 Board Agenda Item 7. And we have Howard coming up front.
- 8 Thank you, Ted. Thank you, Bill.
- 9 PROGRAM DIRECTOR LEVENSON: I think we're ready.
- 10 Good afternoon, Madam Chair and Committee members. Howard
- 11 Levenson with the Sustainability Program.
- 12 And we're here to present consideration of the
- 13 Imperial Valley Resource Management Agency Joint Powers
- 14 Formation Agreement. That may not sound like it because
- 15 of my cold, but we're very happy to have this item before
- 16 you. It represents a lot of work on the part of Tab
- 17 Willmon, Dorothy Woody, Cara, and the jurisdictions within
- 18 the county to come to this agreement. It's a milestone in
- 19 our opinion. And we're very pleased to bring this to
- 20 you.
- 21 So I think we'll just go straight to it. I think
- 22 this is going to foster a lot more communication among the
- 23 participating entities. It's going deal with allocation
- 24 issues. In general, it's a major step forward. So I
- 25 think we'll go ahead and turn it over to Dorothy to make

- 1 the presentation.
- 2 MS. WOODY: Good afternoon, Chair Mulé and
- 3 Committee members. Public Resource Code Section 40970
- 4 allows cities and counties to form a regional agency for
- 5 the purpose of meeting the waste diversion goals.
- 6 The proposed Imperial Valley Resource Management
- 7 Agency is being established for the purpose of
- 8 consolidating integrated waste management planning,
- 9 disposal reporting, and diversion reporting.
- 10 Staff has determined that by combining the Board
- 11 approved base year information for the member
- 12 jurisdictions the proposed regional agency diversion rate
- 13 would be 58 percent for 2004.
- 14 As noted in the agenda item, six member
- 15 jurisdictions were on time extensions through 2005. This
- 16 resolution stipulates these jurisdictions will continue to
- 17 implement the programs developed during the time
- 18 extension.
- 19 If the agency is approved, its annual report will
- 20 still need to provide information about each individual
- 21 jurisdiction's diversion program implementation
- 22 activities.
- 23 Board staff and legal counsel have reviewed the
- 24 regional agency agreement and determined that all
- 25 statutory provisions of public resource and government

- 1 codes have been met.
- 2 Board staff recommends the Board approve Option
- 3 1.
- 4 This concludes my presentation. Bob Douthitt,
- 5 Imperial Valley Task Force, is here today and available to
- 6 answer any questions the Committee may have.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Thank you, Dorothy.
- 8 Do we have any questions for staff? Board Member
- 9 Peace.
- 10 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Where it says the
- 11 agency's annual report will need to provide information
- 12 about each jurisdiction's diversion program implementation
- 13 activity, how about diversion rate? Do we still get an
- 14 individual diversion rate, or are we only going to get an
- 15 agency rate?
- DIVISION CHIEF MORGAN: What we're proposing is
- 17 that the jurisdictions, both their disposal and diversion,
- 18 would be rolled up as a regional agency. So the intent is
- 19 starting in 2006 they would report a single number to the
- 20 Board.
- 21 Up through this reporting year, we still will
- 22 have the disposal for each jurisdiction so we can still
- 23 calculate that diversion rate. But after 2006, we are
- 24 recommending that they report as one single entity.
- MS. WILLMON: Board Member Peace, I was speaking

- 1 with John Cupps earlier, and I do believe they plan to
- 2 continue and monitor the disposal separately as well as
- 3 look at the diversion rate separately within each of the
- 4 individual jurisdictions. But as far as their reporting
- 5 to us, it will be one. Maybe John can speak better to
- 6 that.
- 7 MR. CUPPS: For the record, my name is John
- 8 Cupps. I'm a consultant to the task force.
- 9 And yes, we will certainly be maintaining the
- 10 individual jurisdiction disposal and diversion numbers as
- 11 long as the diversion system is still in place. But for a
- 12 lot of different reasons in order for the regional agency
- 13 to continue to monitor the individual jurisdiction's
- 14 performance, we're going to continue to track that data.
- 15 We will be reporting it to the Board on a regional agency
- 16 basis. But there's no reason we can't or wouldn't share
- 17 the specific jurisdiction number with the Board if there
- 18 was some reason the Board was interested in that.
- 19 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: So if we wanted an
- 20 individual jurisdiction's diversion rate, we could do it?
- 21 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: I'm sorry. We do have a
- 22 speaker slip here for Bob. Bob, did you want to come up
- 23 and say a few words?
- 24 MR. DOUTHITT: Good afternoon, Madam Chair and
- 25 Committee members. Thank you for giving us the time for

- 1 this. John Cupps kind of covered it.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Could you state your name?
- 3 MR. DOUTHITT: Bob Douthitt. If there's any
- 4 questions. Or if not --
- 5 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Do we have any other questions
- 6 for either staff or --
- 7 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I don't have any
- 8 questions. I'm very glad to see that staff recommended
- 9 and also put it in the resolution that they'll still have
- 10 to implement their activities and their programs.
- 11 Appreciate you making sure that was in there.
- 12 BOARD MEMBER CHESBRO: Madam Chair, I'd like to
- 13 provide my congratulations and encouragement. This is a
- 14 real solution for much of rural California. And every
- 15 time we get another one, I think it creates more hope that
- 16 other jurisdictions will think it's possible.
- 17 I've sat on a lot of local rural regional
- 18 agencies, and it's no small task. Because as I was saying
- 19 when we were meeting this morning, you know, you have a
- 20 LAFCO meeting in the evening and slug it out and the next
- 21 morning you go to the waste management meeting and you
- 22 smile at each other. It takes a lot of work to figure out
- 23 how to cast your lot in together. So I'm very
- 24 appreciative of the success that is represented here in
- 25 this regional joining together.

- 1 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Well, I agree with those
- 2 comments. And again, we like the fact that this will
- 3 allow you to continue to implement your programs. But it
- 4 really does foster that collaboration. That is so
- 5 important in Imperial County.
- 6 Again, very familiar with that area, the rural
- 7 nature. But not for long. It's one of the rural areas
- 8 that's becoming more and more suburbanized. So I know you
- 9 have a lot of challenges before you.
- 10 So I applaud you for getting this to the point
- 11 where it is, and I want to thank staff for all of their
- 12 work on it. Good job.
- 13 And I really don't have any questions. Just
- 14 again, I just appreciate all the work that went into this.
- 15 Do you have any other questions or comments? Do
- 16 I have a motion then?
- 17 COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: I'll move Resolution
- 18 2008-21.
- 19 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Second.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: It's moved by Member Peace,
- 21 seconded by Member Danzinger.
- Donnell, could you call the roll?
- 23 SECRETARY DUCLO: Danzinger?
- 24 COMMITTEE MEMBER DANZINGER: Aye.
- 25 SECRETARY DUCLO: Peace?

COMMITTEE MEMBER PEACE: Aye. SECRETARY DUCLO: Chair Mulé? CHAIRPERSON MULÉ: Aye. We'll put that one on consent as well. So thank you all very much. Any other comments from the public? If not, this meeting is adjourned. Thank you. (Thereupon the California Integrated Waste. Management Board Permitting and Compliance Committee adjourned at 3:46 p.m.)

	92
1	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
2	I, TIFFANY C. KRAFT, a Certified Shorthand
3	Reporter of the State of California, and Registered
4	Professional Reporter, do hereby certify:
5	That I am a disinterested person herein; that the
6	foregoing hearing was reported in shorthand by me,
7	Tiffany C. Kraft, a Certified Shorthand Reporter of the
8	State of California, and thereafter transcribed into
9	typewriting.
10	I further certify that I am not of counsel or
11	attorney for any of the parties to said hearing nor in any
12	way interested in the outcome of said hearing.
13	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand
14	this 20th day of February, 2008.
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	TIFFANY C. KRAFT, CSR, RPR
23	Certified Shorthand Reporter
24	License No. 12277
25	